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THE READ HOMESTEAD AT READ'S CORNER, SOUTH SOMERSET, MASS.

Purchased in 1748 by William (4) Read, and still owned in the family (1924). It was originally but one story in height. Here lived John Read, Jr. (3), his son William (4), his son John (5), his son William (6) and his children, grand children and great grand children---seven generations

Some of the Descendants of John Read, Senior

of Newport, Rhode Island and Freetown, Massachusetts

1646-1924

Compiled by
Commander George H. Read, U. S. Navy (Retired)
Late of Great Barrington, Massachusetts

Edited by
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71 Dwight Road, Springfield, Mass.

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FOREWORD

By far the largest part of the material in this book was gathered by the author, Commander George Henry Read, of Great Barrington, Mass., 8th in line, record of whom is to be found in this book. For several years it has been my great pleasure to work with him searching the various records in libraries, town halls, and in Historical Society rooms. Much of the material was gathered at Fall River, Somerset, and Assonet, Mass., and at Newport, R. I., from town and city records. Wills and deeds were searched at the County Court House at Taunton, Mass., and also many deeds relating to the family were found in the Registry of Deeds in Fall River. Private family records were also copied. I believe that I can truthfully say that Commander Read has worked independently of other Read Histories—in fact it was because of manifest errors in some of the histories of the Read family that he determined to write one based only on recorded facts. It would be presumptious to claim that he has made no errors in this work, neither would I say that the work is as complete as it would have been had he lived. However, there is so much of value herein recorded that it is right it should be published in the hope that some one may take it as a foundation and add to it, not only bringing it more up to date, but also searching the records previous to those recorded herein.

GEORGE HOLMES READ.

Some of the Descendants of John Read, Senior

1. OUR ANCESTOR

Diligent effort by Commander George H. Read, the author of this book, failed to reveal the father of (2) John, Sr. It is possible that John, Sr., was the first of the family in this country, and if this is so, search for his parentage must be made in England. This paragraph is inserted in the hope that some interested person may be induced to make this search.

2. JOHN READ, SENIOR

The earliest mention of John Read, Sr., is on May 2, 1666, when he was admitted, with other citizens of Newport as a freeman by the General Assembly of Plymouth Colony, then meeting there.

The date of his birth is not given, but it can reasonably be calculated from his eldest son's record, as happening about 1646.

His marriage is also not stated in the old records, but that too may be accounted for by circumstantial evidence, as follows:

The records of the General Court of Trials, meeting at Newport reveal him as Constable in 1669 and as a Juryman several times in 1670. In the same records is found the name of John Peabody serving as Juryman many times, from 1658 to 1670. Austin's Genealogical Dictionary, page 145, gives the following:

"Peabody, John, born 1612, died 1687 (of Newport, R. I.). M. 1st, ?. M. 2nd, Mary Rogers (widow of James), d. about 1678.

"Children:

1. John, Joseph, Dorothy.
2. Mary, m. Wood.
3. Hannah, m. Reed (probably John Read, Sr. Tho John Peabody's will does not specify).
4. Probably four other children.

"The will of John Peabody was proved 1687, June 17, giving the daughter, Hannah Read, 24 pounds."

John Read, Jr., mentioned in his father's will as his eldest son, and whose first child was born in 1690 was most likely born in 1667/8 or 1668/9.

Hannah, the second child, was born about 1670, and Joseph, about 1687 if the same reckoning may be used as in the case of their brother John.

John Read, Sr., removed from Newport to Freetown about 1677.

The History of Bristol County (page 288) states, "John Read resided in Freetown before its incorporation—July, 1683—when it was made a constablewick, Sept. 28, 1680."

His first purchase of land in Freetown appears to be a part of the fourth Lot in number of the Freemen's Purchase (otherwise called the twenty-six men's purchase), from Mathew Boomer of Newport.

It is recorded in the Rhode Island Land Evidences (page 122) as follows:

"Mathew Boomer of Newport—for two and twenty pounds and tenn shillings currant silver mony of New England—paid—by John Reade of Newport—Cordwainer—have sold one quarter part—of Land lying—on the East side of Tanton River—and is the Moiety of a halfe share—which I purchased of Henry Brightman, with all Medows—the Medows at Scipecan only Excepted—Twentieth day of June, 1677. Mathew Boomer.

"Wit.
John Drury
Josiah Lyndon
William Hiscox
Richard Baily."

On Oct. 29, 1694, he purchased from Ralph and Peter Thatcher the eighth Lot and in the meantime made purchase of considerable land on the west side of Taunton River, where the town of Somerset is now located. He was evidently prospering with his tannery, which was located probably between Mother's Brook and Steep Brook, in the village of Assonet, and his increase of land holdings indicated a sanguine view of the future.

Further details of his purchases are given in his will, a copy of which is below.

A reference to the naming of Somerset seems pertinent here, because of the frequency in the early days of colonization to name new settlements after the English towns from which the immigrant or his immediate ancestors came.

It is given as a fact, in the History of Swansea, that during John Read, Sr.'s life, an attempt was made to "sett off" the lands now included in Somerset, from Swansea, but that it failed in town meeting. It was again agitated, after his death, but was not successful until his heirs (principally John, Jr.) had increased their land holdings in Swansea and had settled there, at what is now known as Read's Corners, in 1748, that permission was granted for the "sett off", and for the new town to be called Somerset. The entire history of the agitation suggests Somerset County in England as the possible residence of John Read, Sr.'s ancestry. Tradition, however, says he came from Plymouth, England, according to J. Whittemore Read's "History of the Read Family", published in 1861.

The deaths of John, Sr., and his wife, Hannah, are given in the old well-preserved records, now at Assonet, as follows. They were written by John Read, Jr., who was then, and for many years after, the Town Clerk of Freetown.

"John Read the furst of Freetown. Desesed ye 3th Day of January 1721 Abought 8 of the Clock of sd Day in the morning . . . ."

"Hanna Read the wife of the above sd John Read Desesed April ye 12 Day on the Day of the week Called wednesday about 9 or ten of the clock in the forenoon of sd Day aged about 84 years and Departed in the year of our Lord 1727."

It is evident that John, Sr., had been appreciated as a faithful public servant, for he was elected Selectman 1689, 1692, and 1697; Assessor in 1690 and 1691, and Treasurer in 1712.

His will is recorded in the Bristol County Registry of Probate, Book 4, pages 6, 7, & 8.

"In the name of God, Amen. I John Read of Freetown, in the County of Bristoll within the Province of Massachusetts Bay in New England, yeoman. Calling to minde my owne mortallity & remembering it is appointed for all once to dye, being at this present time of a sounde minde & memory as at other times, Praised be God for the Same Doe make this my last will & testament in manner and forms followeing that is to say, first & Principally I commend my soule into the hands of God, And my Body I commit to the earth to be Decently Buried at the discretion of my executrix herein after mentioned And as for my worldly estate which God of his goodness hath bestowed upon mee, I give, bequeathe and bestowe as followeth.

"First I will that my just debts and funeral Expenses be paid and discharged.

"ITEM—I give & bequeath unto my well beloved wife, Hannah Read, all that my house and lands in Freetown wherein I now live (which land I bought of Mathue Boomer Senior) & is full quarter part of the fourth lott in Number & is the Northermost part or quarter of said lott for and during her Natural Life, with all the privileges thereunto belonging.

"ITEM—I give and bequeath unto my said wife all my stock, movables & Negroe man James for and during her Natural Life & to be disposed of by her to & amongst my children as shee shall see meet:

"Also I give and bequeath unto my said wife Hannah Read, five acres of salt meddow which I bought of Heugh Coale, out of my tract of Meddowes lying on Taunton River in Shewomick, at a place called the Great Meddow for and during her Natural Life.

"ITEM—I give and bequeath unto my eldest son John Read of Freetown aforesaid, Twoo acres & a half of Salt Meadow lying & being the Westermost side of Taunton River at a place Known by ye name of the Great Meaddows aforesaid & is now in the possession of my said son John Read (which meadow I bought of Mr. John Bayly), beside a halfe lott that may apeare by deed under my hand & seal with all & singular the privileges & appurtenances with the said twoo acres & halfe of meadowes belonging or in anywise apperteining to him my said son John Read, his heirs assignes forever.

"ITEM—I give and bequeath unto my son Joseph Read of Freetowne, aforesaid, the one whole quarter part of that share of land I purchased of Mr. Peter & Ralph Thatchers of Milton, in the Province afforesaid being the eight shaire or lott in Number.

"Together with three acres & a half of salt meadow lying & being on the westermost side of Taunton River at a place knowne by the Name of the Great Meadowes which meadow I purchased of Joshua Gildee of Freetowne afforesaid besides one quarter sheire of land that may apeare by Deed under my hand and seal with all and singular the profitts priveledges & appurtenances unto the said quarter part of the said eight share, being the Southermost part, or quarter of said Sheire & three acres, & half of meadow belonging or in anywise appurtaining to him my said son Joseph Read his heirs & assigns for ever, as also my dwelling house & land where I now live with all the profitts & priveledges thereunto belonging unto him my said son Joseph Read, his heirs & assignes forever after the death & decease of his mother my now wife, Hannah Read. All wayes Providing my said son, Joseph Read, Pay or Cause to be paid twenty-six pounds current money of New England, unto my Grandchildren which my daughter, Hannah Shearman, left and to bee paid as hereafter is exprest.

"ITEM—To my grandchild Benjamin Shearman, six Pound. To my grandson John Shearman, Five Pound. To my Grandson Joseph Shearman, Five Pound. To my grandson Oliver Shearman, Five Pound. To my grandson Thomas Shearman, Five Pound to be paid to each child as they arrive or be of twenty one years of age.

"Further, my minde & will is that if it pleas God that any or either of these children dy before he or they come to the age of twenty one years, that his or their legacy or legacies shall be paid unto the survivors in equall parts & to be paid to the Survivors at the time as he or they do or should have come unto lawful age, or twenty one years of age.

"ITEM—The above mentioned five acres of meadows given and bequeathed unto my said wife Hannah Read, during her natural life, I give & bestowe upon my said sons, John & Joseph Read, to be divided betwixt them: viz. To my son John, Three acres & to my son Joseph twoo acres to be to them their heires & assignes respectively forever, after their said Mother decease.

"Furthermore, Notwithstanding the disposition of my lands & Medows as above expressed unto my said son Joseph Read my will and meaning is that my wife Hannah Read, shall have the use and benefitt of a certaine creek lyeing within the three acres & halfe of meadows given to my son Joseph, or any others by her order, during her natural life & free liberty to cut what wood timber, rayles or other wooden materials which shee hath ocation for & to cart the same being cutt from the quarter sheire of land bequeathed to Joseph Read dureing her natural life.

"My mind & meaning is that my negroe James, shall be to my wife & her heirs & assigns forever to be solde or disposed of as shee shall think fitt anything exprest to the contrary notwithstanding.

"ITEM—I give and bequeath unto the Sabbath Keeping Church of Christ in Newport on Rod Island unto whome I now belong, viz, Mr William Gibsons Church of the which Mr William Hitchcock, did belong the summ of three pounds current Money of New England to be paid by my executrix within the space of one year after my decease, and of this my last will and testiment, I do nominate appointe & Impower my now well beloved wife, Hannah Read, my sole executrix.

"And request my loving Friends Doctor Richard Winslow, of Freetowne aforesaid & William Tew of Tiverton in the County aforesaid to be my overseers of this my last will & Testament to assistt my executrix in what they may & to see that my will is performed according to the true Intentt & Meaneing thereof, entreating them to except of twenty shillings apeice as a token of my love, to be paid to them by my executrix above named, And I do utterly disallow, revoke & Annull all other former testiments wills legacies bequeaths & executors by mee in any wise before this time named willed & bequeathed ratifying & confirming this and no other to be my last will and testiment.

"In witness whereof I have hereunto sett my hand & seale this fifth day of March, Anno Domi, one thousand seven hundred & thirteen or fourteen, and in the thirteenth year of the Reign of Queen Ann, over Great Britain, France & Ireland etc.

"JOHN READ [Seal]

"Signed, sealed, published, pronounced, declared by the said John Read Senr, as his last will & testiment in the presence of

Constant Church	Samuel Forman
John Peirce	Nathan Closson

"The words in the twelfth line for and during her natural life. The words in ye fourteenth line Name of the. The words in ye thirty first lyne (or legacies) and the words in the thirty second line at ye times (have been) was all enterlyned before signing & sealing of ye above written Instrument.

"Bristol S. S., Februry 6th, 1721.—22.

"Bristol County, Registry of Probate Book 4, page 6, 7 & 8."

3. JOHN READ, JUNIOR

Mentioned in the original records at Assonet as John Read the *second*, was the son of John Read and Hannah (Peabody ?) Read, his wife, of Freetown. The date of his birth is not recorded, but as the first child was born Nov. 19, 1690, it may reasonably be placed as late in 1668 or early in 1669.

The date of his marriage is also lacking, but the same calculation as above would place it late in 1689 or early in 1690.

He married (first) Mary Pearce, daughter of John and Mary (Tallman) Pearce, of Tiverton, R. I. She died May 6, 1726, and he married (second) Susannah, daughter of George and Susannah (Pearce) Brownell of Portmouth, R. I., March 29, 1727. She was a cousin of his first wife. She died Aug. 25, 1735, and a third marriage was made with Sarah Chase of Swansea, the widow of Joseph Chase, on October 3, 1737. No children were born of the second or third marriage. Susannah was fifty years of age at her wedding, and Sarah was sixty.

Before the marriage of John and Sarah, a pre-nuptial agreement was signed, on the same day. It is given here as an illustration of the solemnity and binding character of the marriage contract in our early history.

"Whereas there is an intention of marriage by and with the said John Read and Sarah Chase, now widow, who, by a serious contract and a solemn engagement to each other propose to finish and complete the same if Almighty Providence permit, which intention is also publicly declared before a solemn assembly, by both parties aforesaid; and forasmuch as the said John Read having sundry tracts of land in

Freetown, Tiverton and Swansey as also sundry goods and chattels as his own proper estate—as also the said Sarah Chase hath sundry goods and chattels and also some lands in dower by virtue and power of her thirds in and upon the estate of her husband Deceased, the late Joseph Chase, which estate, after marriage being solemnized would be under my government as well as her person, if not otherwise prevented—Therefore, to establish a good understanding and for her better security in order to complete the solemn covenant and agreement which we have contracted, I, the said John Read do solemnly promise and declare that at the receipt of all such goods and chattels as she shall see cause to bring with her, an Inventory thereof shall be taken which shall be hereunto annexed and signed by both parties in order that if it should please God first to remove me by death, all and as much of said goods and chattels as I die seized of shall be returned to said Sarah Chase or to her order and for the true and due performance thereof I do solemnly promise and engage myself, or my heirs, Executors and Administrators,—To the end said Sarah Chase, her heirs, Executors and Administrators or assigns, that the said goods and chattels that I die seized of shall accordingly be returned and delivered together with such and so much of my own proper estate as the said John Read shall and will give and bequeath to the said Sarah Chase by him or them that shall be Executors or Administrators of my last will and testament.

"Furthermore, If it should please God to remove by death the said Sarah Chase before me, I, the said John Read do likewise promise and engage for myself, my heirs, executors and administrators, to and with the said Sarah Chase heirs, executors, administrators or assigns, that the said John Read will deliver all and every part of the estate that in right did belong to said Sarah Chase before marriage, except such as may be worn or otherwise disposed of by her and shall be set forth by her unto such persons as the said Sarah Chase will give or order the same unto either by will or in writing or otherwise dispose of the same according to her pleasure and I do solemnly promise and engage to ratify and confirm the same.

"Moreover—it is mutually agreed between us, the said John Read and the said Sarah Chase (that after the consummation of marriage will be Sarah Read), that the now said Sarah Chase do solemnly promise and declare that from thenceforth and forever do freely and willingly yield up all and surrender my right (or any right I might or should have by virtue of marriage) of dower or power or thirds, of in or unto any part or parcel of the estate, either real or personal of the said John Read that he shall die seized of, but from any claim or challenge thereto or demand thereof, I acknowledge myself or any under me or by my means or procurement, to be utterly excluded, excepting and always reserving out of the present articles of agreement those goods and chattels which I the said Sarah Chase carry with me before in these presents fully exprest and also whatever the said John Read shall will and bequeath to me in his last will and testament according to the intent of this, our solemn covenant.

"In testimony whereof, we, the parties to these Presents, proposing through the Lord's assistance to perform the same, do freely, willingly and cheerfully hereunto set our names and fix our seals.

"Witnesses

Walter Chase	John Read
Miles Fury	Sarah Chase

The children of John Read, Jr., by first marriage:

MARY, b. Nov. 19, 1690; m. Samuel Forman of Freetown, Jan. 22, 1728.

JOHN, b. June 12, 1694; m. Sarah Borden, the widow of Joseph Borden, Sr., of Freetown, Oct. 31, 1719.

THOMAS, b. May 9, 1696; m. Deborah.

HANNAH, b. Oct. 12, 1697; d. Oct. 17, 1718.

WILLIAM, b. Sept. 9, 1699; m. Sarah Smith of Newport, R. I., in 1727.

OLIVER, b. Oct. 14, 1701; m. Martha Durfee, Dec. 29, 1730.

PENELOPE, b. Oct. 12, 1703; m., 1st, Stephen Borden, Feb. 3, 1725. He d. Aug. 10, 1738. She m., 2nd, John Bowen, July 3, 1739.

JONATHAN, b. Jan. 23, 1705; m. Hope Durfee, Mar. 28, 1730, of Tiverton.

JOSEPH, b. Mar. 5, 1708; m. Grace Pray, Mar. 5, 1732/3.

SARAH, b. Feb. 1, 1709/10; d. June 3, 1728.

NATHAN, b. Feb. 23, 1711.

SUSANNAH, b. Sept. 27, 1715; m. Joseph Borden, Jr., Feb. 19, 1736.

The life history of John Jr., is frequently revealed in the old records now at Assonet. He went with his father from Newport to Freetown, following his course in both public and private life, acquiring more lands in Freetown, Swansea and Tiverton and leaving, at his death, his widow and children well provided for.

The people of Freetown honored him by election to public office for many years. He was the Town Clerk from 1701 to 1737, with the exception of two years, and Representative to the General Court in 1723 and 1724.

His last appearance on the records as Town Clerk is the year of his marriage to Sarah Chase and at that date or later he removed to the old homestead at Read's Corner, South Somerset, which his son, William, of Newport, had purchased of Samuel Sherman, in 1748. There he passed the remainder of his days and died at the advanced age of eighty-two, his wife surviving him.

Search in the Proprietors' records, styled "The Book of Records of Shawomat Lands Belonging to ye purchasers of ye said Shawomat Neck and ye Other Lands", in the Town Office at Somerset, Mass., shows that John, Jr., was chosen their clerk for many years, and, as at the Town Office at Assonet, the records are in his neat and careful hand. He was granted several "lotts" which had belonged to the original Proprietors of Shawomat, and also in the "Second Division of ye land called ye outlet", and also at "the great neck." In the City Clerk's office at Fall River, Mass., in the "Record of the Proprietors of the Pocasset Purchase" we find that John, Jr., was almost invariably chosen as one of the various committees, from time to time to look after the distribution of their lands, etc., and that he himself was allotted lands where Fall River is now situated.

The following, a copy of John, Jr.'s, will, which has been of value in verifying the general record, is appended with a view of increasing the interest in the study of his life.

"I, John Read of Swansey In the County of Bristol In the Province of the Massachuesitts Bay In New England yeoman being in reasonable health of Body and of a Sound and Well Disposing mind and Memory, Praise be therefore given to Almighty God; but calling to mind the mortality of my Body well knowing that it is appointed for all men once to Die Do make and ordaine this my Last will and Testament In manner following viz:

"Imprimis I will that all my Just Debts and Funeral Charges be paid and Discharged by my Executrs hereafter named.

"ITEM—I give and bequeath unto Sarah my well beloved wife all her household goods which she Brought with her at her Marriage (Except Such as She has given away and disposed of) and also Such Things as She has purchased Since with her own money as she can Lay Just Claim to, I do also give unto her my bed-pan and four new porringers Lately Bought. My will is that Sarah—my Wife Shall have all the money in her possession and all the money owing to her and all the Bills Bonds or notes for money which She may have or Shall take In her own name being money properly her own, to be to her own Use.

"ITEM—I give unto Sarah my well beloved Wife One Cow, She taking her Choice amongst all my Cows which Compleats the three Cows She brought with her at her Marriage having Disposed or given away two Cows In my life time, I also give unto Sarah my wife five Bushells of Indian Corn—and a fifth part of my Salt

Provisions laid in for my families Use, and also three Gees and half my Dunghill Fowles.

"And also I give and bequeath unto Sarah my well beloved Wife the Sum of Sixty Pounds In good passable Bills of Publick Credit Old Tenor of the currency of Rhoad Island or in other money Equivalent thereunto. I also give unto Sarah my wife three cords of Wood which Shall be Cutt and Carted Down to my landing on Freetown Side all which gifts and bequests is out of good will and in Liew of two Swine which She Brought with her at our Marriage all which gifts and bequests Shall be paid Done and performed by my Executors hereafter named.

"ITEM—I give and devise unto my son John Read and to his heirs and Assigns for Ever all the remaining part of that half Lott of Land he now Lives on in Freetown (That is not Already granted to him by Deeds of Gift or Sale) from Taunton River to the Great Pond in the Woods.

"ITEM—I give and Devise unto my Two Grand Children—Namely Elisha Read and Thomas Read (Sons of my Son Thomas Read Deceased) and to their Heirs and Assigns for Ever, Each one part and part alike One Hundred Acres of Land Upon the Eastermost Side of the Pond which Shall Extend the whole breadth of that half Share of Land that my Son John lives on and from the Pond Easterly to make up One Hundred Acres.

"ITEM—I give and Devise unto my Son John Read and to his heirs and Assigns for Ever all the rest and Residue of my Land Extending Easterly above and from the Hundred Acres I have given to my two Grandchildre Namely Elisha and Thomas Read Sons of my Son Thomas Deceased, being the whole Breadth of that half Share of Land my Son John Lives on and so Extending Easterly to the Dividing Line between Freeman's Purchase and the Purchase of Pocassett and also one Equal half part of all my Salt Marsh In the Great Meadow In Shewammock Neck with half the Priviledge of the Beach adjoyning thereto.

"ITEM—I give and Devise unto my Son Oliver Read and to his heirs and Assigns for Ever—all that my Farme whereon he now Dwells, which I purchased of Joseph Gooch and his Wife Elizabeth Butting on Taunton River, and Extending to the Deviding Line between Freeman's Purchase and Pocassett Purchase: And also one Equall half part of all my Salt Marsh In the Great meadow in Shewammock Neck, with half the Priviledge of the Beach adjoyning thereto and also my Negro man named Cudjeo and my Molatto Girl named Mercy.

"ITEM—I give and Devise unto my Son Oliver Read and to his heirs and Assigns for Ever Ten Acres of Land Three Acres of which Shall be meadow the other seven Acres Shall be pasture Land lying in this my Homestead Farm Butted Southerly by the Drift way Westerly by the Country Road.

"ITEM—My Will is I give and allow a Drift-way from the Pond to Taunton River, and a convenient Landing there and also a Drift-way on the South Side of the brook from the Country Road to the river and a Convenient Landing place there for the Use of all my Children that I have given any land unto through Gates and Barrs: They that Improve said ways, to be at Equal Charge with my Son Oliver to maintain Gates and Barrs.

"ITEM—My Will is That I give and allow a Drift-way from the Dividing line between Freemans Purchase and Pocassett Purchase Through my son Olivers Land Down to Taunton River for the use of my Son Wm Read his heirs and Assigns for Ever—and all the rest of my Children for their use.

"ITEM—I give and bequeath unto my Grandson James Read (Son of my Son Jonathan Read Deceased) The sum of One Hundred pounds in good passable Bills of Creditt Old Tenor In the Currency of Rhoad Island or other money Equivalent thereunto which shall be paid by my Son Wm Read when my said Grandson arrives to the years of Twenty One for the performance of which payment I have taken a bond from under the hand and Seal of my said Son Wm Read.

"ITEM—I give and bequeath Equally between my two Daughters namely Mary Forman and Penelope Bowen all the rest and Residue of my Household Furniture that is not otherways Disposed of in this my last will and Testament (Excepting and Reserving my Brass Kettle one Iron Pott and a Negro Girl which is now in her possession which I give to my daughter Penelope Bowen over and above her Equall Share) I also give unto my said Daughter Penelope Bowen the Sum of Sixty pounds in good Passable Bills of Public Creditt Old Tenor in the Currency of Rhoad Island or other money Equivalent thereto to be paid by my Executors.

"ITEM—I give and bequeath unto my Daughter Mary Forman the sum of seventy pounds In good Passable Bills of Creditt Old Tenor In the Currency of Rhoad Island or other money Equivalent thereunto to be paid by my Executors.

"ITEM—I give and bequeath unto my Daughter Susannah Borden, That is to say her three Daughters the sum of Forty pounds In good passable Bills of Creditt Old Tenor In the Currency of Rhoad Island or other money Equivalent thereunto to be Equally divided among them and paid by my Executrs when they arrive at Eighteen years of age. What goods I lent to my Daughter Susannah Shall remain in the hands of Joseph Borden Wholly at his Disposall amongst my Daughters Children.

"ITEM—I give and bequeath unto my Son John Read my Molatto Girl Phillis and my Negro Woman named Jinney who has lived with him many Years, I always

intended them for him. I also give and bequeath unto my Grandson Oliver Read son of my Son John Read my Molatto Boy Named Richard.

"ITEM—My mind and Will is that my Molatto Woman named Margaret shall have her freedom and Liberty for Ever, I also give and bequeath unto her the sum of Five pounds In good Passable Bills of Creditt Old Tenor In the Currency of Rhoad Island or other money Equivalent there unto together with her Bed Bedding and Clothing and all other things that She has obtained and allowed to be hers, all which shall be paid and Delivered her by my Executrs and if it should so happen by any Misfortune that the said Margaret should fall to Decay and likely to become a Town Charge I will that my three sons that has my Lands Shall be at the Charge of her Support and Maintenance and Save the Town from Trouble and Charge.

"ITEM—I give and Devise unto my Two Grandsons (Sons of my Son Thomas Read Deceased) and to their heirs and Assigns for Ever Ten Acres of Land in Freetown and is a part of the farme on which my Son Oliver Dwells, Butting on the Great fresh Pond half the breadth of that farme and Bounded on the Southside with my Son John's Land, Extending Westerly to make Ten Acres which Boundaries are already fixed.

"ITEM—I give and Devise unto my Grandsons (Sons of my Son Thomas Read Deceased) and to their Heirs and Assigns for Ever a certain Spott of Land around the house wherein I now Dwell with all my part of the Buildings thereon Standing as the Same is Bounded beginning at the Northwest corner of the Barn from thence Easterly to the Orchard Wall to a Walnutt Bush Markt on three sides with Stones about it. Thence Westerly to a Great Beach Tree so straight to the forementioned Bounds together with full Liberty and priviledge to pass and repass at time and times as they shall have Occation (Always Reserving) to my Daughter In Law Deborah Read Widow of my Son Thomas Read Deceased the Use and full Improvement of said Land and Buildings with all the priviledges during her Widowhood but no longer. My two Grandchildren to have Each one part and part alike. Also my will is That my Wife shall have full liberty and priviledges of my part of the house with my bed room and part of the Closett with her comfortable Support of my Provisions for six months till she can Conveniently Remove.

"ITEM—I give and devise unto my Son William Read and to his heirs and Assigns for Ever all the Rest and Residue of this my Homestead farme that is not given and Disposed of in this my Last Will and Testament with all the Liberties Priviledges and appurtenances thereto belonging be the same More or Less he paying and performing his Assigned Legacies.

"ITEM—I give and bequeath to my Daughter In Law Deborah Read Widow to my Son Thomas Read Deceased the Sum of One hundred pounds In Good Publick bills of Creditt Old Tenor In the Currency of Rhoad Island or other money Equivolent thereunto which shall be paid by my Son Wm Read In his own particular Capacity.

"ITEM—I give and bequeath unto my Two Grandsons Elisha and Thomas Read Sons of my Son Thomas Read Deceased the Sum of Three Hundred Pounds In Good passable Bills of Creditt old Tenor In the Currency of Rhoad Island or other money Equivolent thereunto Each one part alike which Shall be paid by my Son Wm Read In his own particular Capacity.

"ITEM—I give and bequeath unto my Grand Daughter Hannah Lawton Daughter to my Son Thomas Read Deceased the Sum of fifty pounds In good passable Bills of Creditt Old Tenor In Rhoad Island Currency or other money Equivolent thereunto which Shall be paid by my Son Wm Read In his own particular Capacity.

"ITEM—I give and bequeath unto my Grand Daughter Deborah Read Daughter of my Son Thomas Read Deceased the Sum of One Hundred and fifty pounds In Good passable Bills of Creditt Old Tenor In Rhoad Island Currency or other money Equivolent Thereunto which Shall be paid by my Son Wm Read In his own particular Capacity.

"FINALLY—All the rest and Residue of my Estate whether Reall or personall not herein given and Disposed off Together with all my Living Stock of what Kind or Nature Soever I give and bequeath unto my Executors, Namely William Read and Oliver Read the better to Enable them to pay my Just Debts and Funeral Charges and Legacies, whom I Doe Nominate, Constitute and Appoint my Executors To this my Last Will and Testament Ratifying and Confirming the Same.

"In Witness Whereof I have hereunto Sett my hand and fixed my Seal this Twenty fifth Day of June Anno Domini 1750.

"Signed Sealed Published Pronounced
and declared by the Said John Read
this to be his Last Will and Testa-
ment In presence of
Edward Slead
Samuel Slead
Wm Hart

John Read" [Seal]

The children of John, Jr., with the exception of those who had

passed away, were living near him when the foregoing will was signed and apparently, also at the time of his death.

Those deceased were Thomas, Hannah, Jonathan, and Sarah.

Mary was settled at Freetown, having married Samuel Forman, a prominent citizen of the town in both civil and military affairs.

John, the first son, was also living there, on the eighth lot of the Freemen's Purchase.

William, had married Sarah Smith of Newport, and was settled there.

Oliver, Penelope, Joseph, and Susannah were all married and living near their parents.

Of Nathan, who is recorded as born Feb. 23, 1711, and who is not mentioned in his father's will, no later information is found.

3. JOSEPH READ

Son of John and Hannah (Peabody ?) Read, born at Freetown about 1687; married, first, Sarah Deane of Taunton, in 1708. She died Nov. 13, 1738, and in 1739 he married widow Hannah Hunt of Dartmouth. All of his chidlren were of the first marriage. The original records at Assonet state, "Lieut. Joseph Read of Freetown, Gentleman, deceased March 2, 1745."

The children were:

JOSEPH, b. Aug. 21, 1710.

BENJAMIN, b. Nov. 13, 1711; d. Oct. 25, 1732; unmarried.

ELIZABETH, b. Apr. 19, 1713; m. Andrew Pickens. (Intention of m. published Oct. 9, 1741.)

DOROTHY, b. Nov. 26, 1714; m. Ephraim Hunt of Dartmouth, Feb. 14, 1739/40.

SAMUEL, b. Dec. 23, 1715; m. Mercy Sawyer of Tiverton, Jan. 1, 1741.

PHOEBE, b. Feb. 16, 1717.

HANNAH, b. Apr. 22, 1719.

SARAH, b. Oct. 3, 1721; d. single.

MARY, b. Sept. 12, 1728; m. Henry Brightman, June 30, 1763.

Lieut. Joseph Read was an important man in Freetown. He was elected Representative to the General Court in 1729, and as Selectman and Assessor for several years. He was the Town Clerk at the time of his death. As his second marriage has not been mentioned in previous genealogies, his will is given below in order to confirm the present record.

"In the Name of God Amen This first Day of June Anno Domini One Thousand Seven Hundred and Forty Two, I Joseph Read of Freetown in the County of Bristol in the Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England Yeoman, Calling to mind the Mortality of my Body and knowing that it is Appointed for all men once to die, do Make and ordain This my Last Will and Testament, That is to say, Principally and first of I Give and Recommend My Soul into the hands of God that Gave it, and My Body, to the Earth to be Buried in a Decent Christian Manner, at the Discretion of My Executor hereafted Named, and as touching Such worldly Estate

as it has Pleased God to Bless me with I give the Dispose of the same in the following Manner and Form:

"Imprimis, My Will is that My Just Debts and Funeral Charges and Charges of settling my Estate be Paid, by my Executor, out of my Estate

"ITEM—I give and bequeath unto My Beloved Wife Hannah Read, My Black Mare on which she usually Rides, or another Suteable and Convenient Mare or Horse, to her acceptance; and the Thirty Pounds Mentioned in the Agreement we Made before our Marriage to be for Her, her Heirs and Assigns forever. And I also Give her Five Busshels of Indian Corn, One Hundred Weight of good Beef, and One Hundred and Fifty weight of good Pork, and salt to salt it well, for each and Every year as long as she Continues to be my Widow, and my Will is that She shall have the Privilege of a Convenient Lower Room, Chamber and Garett in my Now Dwelling House, with Convenient Cellar Room, and fire wood found for her at the Door both Summer and Winter and Two Barrels of sider and six Bushels of good Winter Apples for Each and every year and Summer fruit Convenient for her of every sort out of the orchard, and Liberty to keep six Dunghill fowls and six Geese and a Cow provided and kept for her both Summer and Winter as long as Long as she tarries at my now Dwelling House and my will is that all the Household Goods which My above sd Wife brought with her, be returned to her after my Decease. in as good order as they were in when they came to me, according to the Envoise which was then taken of them.

"ITEM—I give and Bequeath unto my Beloved son Joseph Read Besides what I have already Given him My Sword which he has Now in Possession and also Fifteen Pounds according to the old Tenor to be paid to him in one year after my Decease, and my Silver Headed Keen, to him his Heirs and Assigns forever.

"ITEM—I Give and Bequeath unto My Beloved Daughter Elizabeth Pickin Twenty Pounds according to the old Tenour to be Paid to her in one year after my Decease, to her, her Heirs and Assigns forever.

"ITEM—I Give and Bequeath unto My Beloved Daughter Dorothy Hunt Twenty Pounds according to the old Tenour, to be Paid to her in one year after My Decease, to her, her Heir sand Assigns forever.

"ITEM—I Give and Bequeath unto My Beloved Daughter Phebe Read Twenty Pounds according to the old Tenour, to be Paid to her Two years after my Decease.

"ITEM—I give unto my Beloved Daughter Hannah Read Twenty Pounds according to the old Tenour, to be Paid to her in Two years after my Decease.

"ITEM—I give and Bequeath unto My Beloved Daughter Sarah Read Twenty Pounds according to the old Tenour, to be Paid to her in Three years after my Decease.

"ITEM—I give and Bequeath unto My Beloved Daughter Mary Read Thirty Pounds according to the old Tenour, to be Paid to her in three years after My Decease.

"ITEM—I give and Bequeath unto Sarah Hunt My Daughter in Law, Ten Pounds according to the old Tenour, to be Paid to her in Three years after My Decease.

"ITEM—I give unto My Beloved Son Samuel Read and My above sd Six Daughters, viz, Elizabeth Pickin, Dorothy Hunt, Phebe, Hannah, Sarah and Mary Read all my Household Goods That shall Remain after My Decease to be Divided among Them, That is to say, those of them that have not already Received any part of My Household goods, are first to take as Much of it as Will make them Equal with those who have already Received some part of it, and then come to an Equal Division of the Remainder.

"ITEM—I Give unto My above sd Son Samuel and My above sd Six Daughters all my stock of Living Creatures (Excepting one yoke of oxen) that shall remain after my Debts are Paid, to be equally Divided among them, and further My will is that if any of My above sd four Daughters, viz, Hannah Sarah Phebe and Mary Read, die before they come of age or are Married, that then what I have given them in This My Last Will and Testament shall be given to and Divided among the Rest of My Surviving Daughters.

"ITEM—I Give and Bequeath unto My above sd Son Samuel Read all my out Lands Lying on the Easterly Side of Wautuppa Pond and all My Salt Marsh Meadow Lying on the Westerly side of Taunton River in Shawaumet Purchase in Swanzey Great Meadows, and My Negro Boy Nero, and Moses My Indian fellow One yoke of oxen and all the Rest of My Estate, both Moveable and immovable where ever the same may be found either in Possession or Reversion, which I have not already Given away in This My Last Will and Testament to him His Heirs and Assigns forever, he Paying to and providing for My above sd wife what I have herein given her and also he Paying My Just Debts funeral Charges and Charges of Settling of my Estate and the several Legacies which I have given to the Rest of my Children in This My Last Will and Testament and Further I Do hereby Authorize, ordain and Appoint My above sd Beloved son Samuel Read to be the sole Executor of This My Last Will and Testament and Finally I do hereby Renounce and Make Null and void all other Wills by me formerly Made, Ratifying and Confirming This and no other

to be my Last Will and Testament, in Witness Whereof I the sd Joseph Read have hereunto set My hand and seal the Day and year above Mentioned:

"Signed Sealed Published Pronounced
and Declared by him the sd Joseph
Read to be his Last Will and Testament
In Presence of us Witnesses: Joseph Read" [Seal]
Joshua Boomer
Benjamin Jenks
Richard Pierce

3. HANNAH READ

Daughter of John and Hannah (Peabody ?) Read, was, as reckoned from the mention of her in her father's will, born at Newport, about 1670, and as the second child of her parents. In said will it is stated that her children were all under twenty-one when it was signed and that she had married a Shearman, leaving at her death (the date of which is not given) five sons, whose names were as follows:

BENJAMIN,
JOHN,
JOSEPH,
OLIVER, and
THOMAS.

4. JOHN READ (THE THIRD)

Son of John Read, Jr., and Mary (Pearce) Read, was born at Freetown, June, 12, 1694. He is called John Read the third in the original records at Assonet, and his marriage is stated as follows:

"John Read the thurd & Sarah Borden widow and Reluke to Joseph Borden desest all of Freetown were Joined in mariage in Diton, on the last day of October 1719." Sarah Borden was born June 14, 1681, and therefore was thirteen years older than John. The history of the Read families states that he lived in Swansea and died 1751. The date of the death of his wife has not been found.

Their children were:

JOHN, b. Nov. 17, 1720; m. Ruth Lawton, Jan. 9, 1745, of Freetown.

OLIVER, b. Nov. 10, 1725.

John Read, the third, was admitted freeman of the Colony May 3, 1715, and was living, according to his father's will, which is dated June 25, 1750, on the eighth lot of the Freemen's Purchase in Freetown.

4. THOMAS READ

The second son of John Read, Jr., and Mary (Pearce) Read, born at Freetown May 9, 1696; married Deborah—

He died before his father, who, in his will, bequeathed land and money to the widow and children of Thomas.

The children were:
ELISHA,
THOMAS,
HANNAH, married a Lawton.

But little information can be obtained concerning Thomas and his children. Elisha and Thomas, Jr., were given land by John, Jr.'s, will, on both sides of the Taunton River, in Freetown and in Swansea, but after the sale by them to their uncle, William Read, of the Freetown lands, in 1754, their names are not found.

4. WILLIAM READ

Son of John, Jr., and Mary (Pearce) Read, was born at Freetown, Sept. 9, 1699. He was married to Sarah Smith of Newport by Justice of the Peace Job Lawton of Freetown, in 1727. He settled in Newport, remaining there until 1777, when he removed to Swansey on account of the occupation by the British of Newport. He died in 1782, his will being recorded at Taunton on Nov. 5th of that year.

The children were:

JOHN, b. 1729; m. Mary Corey (she b. Mar. 15, 1731). He d. Apr. 8, 1802.

MARY, b. 1733; the old records of Newport contain the following: "Gideon Sisson married to Mary Read, Feb. 10, 1757." She probably died soon after marriage, as the following appears in 1762: "Gideon Sisson married to Mary Hart, both of Newport."

ELIZABETH, b. 1736; m. Warner.

SARAH, b. (Date of birth and death not found); m. Durfee.

NATHAN, b. Nov. 8, 1741; m., May 29, 1777, Content Brayton, daughter of Israel and Mary (Perry) Brayton of Swansea.

William Read was one of the leading men of Newport during its rapid growth as an off-shoot of Portsmouth. It soon passed the parent town in population. The History of Warwick states, "In 1655 the number of persons enrolled as freemen in this town was thirty-eight, Providence had forty-two, Portsmouth seventy-one, and Newport ninety-six."

The public career of William Read began at an early age. When but thirty he was elected a Deputy to the General Court and served in that capacity almost continually from 1754 to 1771. In 1754 he, with James Sheffield were appointed to purchase land for the Tail Lighthouse, the construction of which he later completed.

During the French and Spanish wars, he owned several privateers that evidently were profitable ventures.

In 1769 he commanded the British revenue sloop Liberty, which was engaged off Newport in the prevention of smuggling that the oppressive laws of England had provoked.

In 1761 he was appointed by the General Assembly as Captain

of Goat Island, opposite Newport, and Captain of the Newport County Troop. The next year he was Captain of the Newport Artillery.

It is apparent, from the records, that William Read had not, up to 1769, advocated open hostilities to the home Government, but faithfully served his King and the Colony. He was, however, among the complainants of oppression, as is evident from his deed of the Liberty Tree in 1766, but it was not until the Sloop Liberty under his command was destroyed by a party of radical patriots, that he broke away from his allegiance and joined them.

We next find him as a Corporal in Captain Carr's Company of Colonel Robert Elliott's regiment, in 1776. Early in the following year, as stated above, he removed to Swansea, to the Homestead that he had purchased in 1748 from Samuel Sherman.

The cause of his removal is explained in Arnold's History of Rhode Island, which states that on December 6th, 1776, the women and children of seaport towns, especially Newport, Providence, Bristol, were advised to move with their furniture to the interior. The stock on Rhode Island and Conanicut were driven off, and on Dec. 8th the army disembarked.

The same history also refers to the patriotic attitude and love of Liberty of William Read, as follows: "In 1766, Captain William Read, in Newport, a deputy of that town, gave a piece of land for the purpose of planting a tree of Liberty, and this patriotic Impulse for Liberty was followed in other places."

The Tree of Liberty, which he deeded to The Sons of Liberty through William Ellery and others, was situated on what is now North Main Street, on property owned by him. Pieces of the old tree (which was cut down by the British in 1778) may still be seen in the office of the Secretary of State of Rhode Island, as parts of a picture frame containing the original commission of a board appointed to investigate the destruction of the Gaspee. The deed is as follows:

TO ALL PEOPLE TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME GREETING

I William Read of Newport in the County of Newport in the English Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations in New England in America, Merchant, For and in consideration of the love of my Country and an ardent desire to perpetuate to the latest posterity the Liberties and Priviledges handed down by my glorious Ancestors and also for the further consideration of Five Shillings Lawful money to me in hand paid by William Ellery, John Collins, Robert Crook and Samuel Fowler, Merchants and all of said Newport, the receipt whereof I do hereby acknowledge that this Deed may be held good and sufficient in all considerations of Law, have given, granted, sold and conveyed and do hereby give, grant, bargain, sell and convey to them the said William Ellery, John Collins, Robert Crook and Samuel Fowler, and to such other persons as shall or may be chosen by the Survivors of them upon the decease of either of them forever in such succession, a certain Large Buttonwood Tree Standing at the North End of Thames Street in Newport aforesaid and at the North End of my Lott of Land there being with the Land on which it stands bounded as follows, Easterly on Farewell Street about twenty-six feet, Southerly by my said Lott of Land about Eleven feet and Westerly on Thames Street, making a Point to the North & lying in the form of a Triangle with the appurtenances, to have and to hold the same to them the Said William Ellery, John Collins, Robert Crook and Samuel Fowler, and their Successors as aforesaid to and for the uses Intents and designs following, viz; That the said Tree forever hereafter be known by the name of the Tree of Liberty and be sett apart to and for the use of the Sons of Liberty and that the same Stand as a Monument of the Spirited and Noble

Opposition made to the Stamp Act in the year One Thousand Seven Hundred and Sixty-five, by the Sons of Liberty in Newport Rhode Island and throughout the Continent of North America, and be considered Emblematical of Publick Liberty. Of her strength & spreading protection by her benign Influences refreshing her Sons in all their just Struggles against the Attempts of Tyranny and Oppression. And furthermore the said Tree of Liberty is destin'd and set apart for exposing to Publick Ignomy and Reproach all offenders against the liberties of their Country and Abettors and Approvers of Such as would enslave her. And that the same may be repair'd to upon all Rejoicings on account of the Rescue and deliverance of Liberty from any danger she may have been in of being Subserved and overthrown. And furthermore that the said Tree of Liberty stand as a Memorial of the firm and unshaken Loyalty of the American Sons of Liberty to his Majesty King George the third and their Inviolable Attachment to the happy Establishment of the Protestant Succession In the Illustrious House of Hanover and in General said Tree is hereby convey'd to and sett apart for such other uses as they the True Born Sons of Liberty shall from time to time from age to age and in all times and ages forever hereafter apprehend Judge and Resolve may Subserve the Glorious Cause of Publick Liberty.

And I the said William Read do hereby covenant to and with the said William Ellery, John Collins, Robert Crook and Samuel Fowler and their Successors as aforesaid, That I am the true and Lawful Owner of said bargain'd Premises that I have good authority and full power to dispose Grant Sell and Convey them as aforesaid, and that I will Warrant and defend the same to them the said William Ellery, John Collins, Robert Crook, and Samuel Fowler, and their Successors as aforesaid against the Lawful Claims and Demands of all persons forever hereafter.

In Witness Whereof I the said William Read have hereunto Set my hand & seal this Fourteenth day of April in the Sixth year of his Majestys Reign George the third King of Great Britain & Annuo que Domini One Thousand Seven hundred and Sixty Six.

William Read.

The above deed was witnessed by thirty of the Newport citizens and sworn to before Justice of the Peace Henry Ward, on April 14th.

It appears that he never took up again a residence at Newport for any length of time, but he retained his property there and disposed of it as will be seen in his will to his descendants.

The Old Homestead, which he had purchased from Samuel Sherman in 1748, was occupied by him until his death in 1782. His will was signed Dec. 8, 1780, and recorded at Taunton, Nov. 5, 1782.

The deed, transferring to him the farm at Swansey, although long, is entered here because it definitely establishes its bounds.

"To ALL to whom these presents shall Come, Samuel Shearman of Swansey in the County of Bristol In the Province of Massachusetts Bay In New England Yeoman Sendeth Greeting. Know Ye That I the said Samuel Shearman for and in Consideration of the Sum of four thousand four hundred pounds Old Tenor In good passable Bills of Creditt to me In hand well and truly paid at the Ensealing and Delivery of these Presents by William Read of Newport In the County of Newport In the Colony of Rhode Island, etc. Merchant: The Receipt whereof I Do hereby acknowledge and my self herewith fully Satisfied Contented and Paid, and thereof and of every part and parcell thereof Do Exonerate acquit and Discharge the Said William Read his heirs Executors Administrators and assigns for Ever By these presents Have given, granted bargained, Sold, Aleinated, Conveyed and confirmed, and by these presents Do freely, fully, Clearly and absolutely, give, grant, bargain, Sell, Aleine Convey and Confirm unto him the said William Read his heirs and assigns for Ever Two Certain forty-five Acres of Land in Nos. 2-3 Situate Lying and being In the Township of Swansey In the purchase of Shewammock which Ninety Acres be the same more or Less it is all that farm which was given Equally between my Brother Wm Shearman and my self as appears by the last Will and Testament of my Honored Father Deceased and by a good and Lawful Deed well Executed According to Law purchased my Brother's Half part. The whole farm is Butted and Bounded as followeths Northerly on the Land of Mr. John Read's and a high way. Westerly on the Land of Capt. Jonathan Read's and Southerly on the Land of Daniel Chase and Easterly on Taunton Great River So Called Always allowing a Drift way to the waterside and also allowing a Convenient Landing at the Waters Side which said Landing and Drift way is bounded Northerly on Mr John Read's Land until it comes to a high stump where the said Mr Wm Read is to Keep and maintain a Cart gate for the Use and benefit of the proprietors and purchasers and their Heirs, and from Said Gate Easterly to a White Oak Tree which

is the Southeast Corner of Mr. John Read's Land as more at Large appears by the Records of Shewammock Purchase Reference thereto being had for a more plain and ample Demonstration, and for Consideration of said Driftway the said Mr. Wm Read shall have the use and benefitt of a wateright place as Sett forth in said Records for his heirs and Assigns for Ever. To Have and to Hold all and singular the above granted and bargained premises with all the appurtenances thereunto belonging Together with the house Orchard and Cribb and all other the liberties priviledges and Appurtenances thereunto belonging or in any wise appertaining To him the said Wm Read his heirs and assigns for ever to him and their proper use benefitt and behoof for Ever: and I the said Samuel Shearman do avouch and Declare That at and before the Ensealing of these presents I am the True Sole and Lawfull Owner of the above bargained premisses having In my self good Right full power and Lawfull Authority to grant bargain sell alience Convey and confirm In manner as above said: and that the said Wm. Read his heirs and assigns shall and may from time to time and at all times hereafter for Ever, Have, Hold, Use, Occupie, possess and Enjoy, all and Every These. The said Demissed and bargained premisses with all the appurtenances priviledges, and commodities thereunto belonging free and Clearly acquitted Exonerated and Discharged of and from all manner of Incumberances whatsoever to make null or void by any Lawfull means, This present Deed of Sale, and Further more I Do hereby acknowledge for my self my heirs executors and Administrators Do further Engage to Warrant Secure and Defend The said Wm Read His Heirs and Assigns In the Quiett and Peaceable Possession and seasure In fee simple of all and singular of Every the said Demised and bargained premises against the lawfull Claims or Demands of all and Every other person or persons whatsoever. In witness whereof I have hereunto sett my hand and seal this sixteenth Day of Aprill and In the Twenty first of his Majesties Reign George the Second King of Great Britain & Anno Domini 1748.

"Signed Sealed and
Delivered In Presence of us:
Thomas Estes
Jos. Fox

Samuel Sheaman
Mary Shearman

"Received Day of Date above written of above named William Read within mentioned sum of Four Thousand four hundred pounds. It being in full for & in Consideration Money within mentioned

Samuel Shearman.
Newport July 20th, 1748.
The above named Samuel Shearman appeared & Acknowledged This Instrument to be his act and deed.
Samuel Wirkham, Just. Peace."

There is so much in this William's will that gives us data concerning his children, that notwithstanding its length it seems wise to add it to his record. It is as follows, and the original is in the Registry of Deeds at Taunton, Mass.

"I William Read of Swansey in the County of Bristol in the State of Massachusetts Bay, late of Newport in the County of Newport, etc., merchant being in health and of a sound disposing mind and memory, thanks be given to Almighty God; therefore calling to mind the mortality of my body and knowing it is appointed once for all men to die, do make and ordain this my last will and testament. That is to say principally and first of all I give and recommend my soul to God and my body I commit to the earth from whence it came to be decently buried at the discretion of my executors herein after named and as touching such worldly estate herewith it has pleased God to bless me with in this life I give and dispose of the same in the following manner and form:

"IMPRIMIS—I will that all my just debts and funeral charges be paid in some convenient time after my decease.

"ITEM, I give and bequeath unto my well beloved wife Sarah Read four hundred silver Spanish milled dollars or other money equivalent thereunto. I also give unto Sarah my wife the use and improvement of the one loyalty or half part of my dwelling house where I lately lived in Newport aforesaid with one half part of my two lots of land one whereof is that on which my said house stands, the other a little to the east thereof on the other side of Thames street together with all buildings thereon and improvements, rights and appurtenances thereunto belonging or in any wise appertaining, and I give unto Sarah my wife the use and improvement of such a part of the dwelling house I now dwell in sd Swansey, and also such a part of the other buildings on my said farm in Swansey excepting what I shall otherwise give in this my last will as she shall have occasion to use.

"The use and improvements as above said to remain to Sarah my wife during the time she shall remain my widow and no longer. I also give unto Sarah my wife

one half of all my living stock I now have by me to be kept and supported both summer and winter on my farm in Swansey which I shall herein give unto my son John Reed, during the time she shall remain my widow, I also give unto my wife all my household goods with all my hard plate, also my two negro women Prue and Phillis.

"ITEM—I give and devise unto my son John Read his heirs and assigns forever all that part of my farm I bought of William Shearman with part of my land I bought of my Honored Father John Read deceased, and part of what land he gave me in his last will and testament being bounded as follows: Southerly on land of Daniel Chase, Westerly partly on land of Peleg Shearman and partly on land of Buffum Slade. Northerly partly by highway and partly by land of the heirs of Oliver Read late of Freetown, deceased, Northerly on land of Israel Brayton and extending Easterly by land of said Brayton till it comes to a brook then Southerly in the middle of the brook till it comes to a driftway to a fence, then Easterly by said fence as it now stands down to the river, bounded Easterly on said River with all the buildings standing thereon, said John allowing his mother the use and improvements given to her in this my last will as before expressed. I also give unto my said son John and to his heirs and assigns the use and privilege of the landing place on the North side of the cove where the ship-yard formerly was with a privilege of a way to the same to pass and repass as he shall have occasion. I also give and devise unto my said son John my negro man Birch.

"ITEM—I give and devise unto my said son John Read his heirs and assigns forever a certain tract or parcel of land situate, lying and being in Freetown which I bought of Elisha and Thomas Read and may at large appear by a deed of the same bearing date A. D. 1754.

"ITEM—I give and devise unto my two sons namely John Read and Nathan Read their heirs and assigns forever all that my tract and parcel of land containing five, six or seven hundred acres which I purchased from my Honored father John Read deceased, which he purchased of Edward Arnold, James Arnold and my grandfather John Pierce the said tract or parcel of land was laid out in the Pocassett Purchase to be by them equally possessed and enjoyed.

"ITEM—I give and devise unto my son Nathan Read his heirs and assigns forever all the rest and residue of all my land lying in Swansey aforesaid, with all the buildings standing thereon bounded as follows: Northerly on land of Israel Brayton, Westerly on land I have given to son John and Southerly and Easterly on salt water.

"ITEM—I give and bequeath unto my son John Read one case of twelve bottels.—

"ITEM—I give and devise unto my daughter Sarah Durfey widow her heirs and assigns my two lots of land lying in Newport aforesaid with my dwelling house standing on one of said lots where I lately lived with all the other buildings standing on said two lots of land she allowing Sarah my wife the quiet and peaceable use and improvement of same according to this my last will as before expressed. I also give unto my said daughter Sarah Durfey and to her legal representatives in addition to what I have already given her three hundred Spanish milled dollars.

"ITEM—I give and devise unto my daughter Mary Brayton in addition to what I have already given her one certain tract or parcel of land containing about one hundred and sixty acres more or less situate and lying and being in the town of Dartmouth being part of land I bought of Enos Gifford, Benjamin Gifford and Samuel Gifford. I also give and bequeath unto my said daughter Mary Brayton and to her legal representatives two hundred Spanish milled dollars.

"ITEM—I give and devise unto my daughter Elizabeth Warner her heirs and assigns forever in addition to what I have already given her all that my lot or parcel of land containing about eight acres more or less where my son John formerly lived in Newport aforesaid with dwelling house and all other buildings thereon being the same I purchased of Samuel Vaughn with the addition my said daughter keep a cow on said lot and provide suitable provider for said cow for use of Sarah my beloved wife during the time as before expressed. I also give unto my said daughter Elizabeth my negro woman Silvia.

"ITEM—I give unto my son John Read all the rest and residue of my living stock not before given away in this my last will together with all my farming tools and tackling.

"The meaning and intent of my will is that gifts and bequeaths herein given to Sarah my wife is given in lieu of her third dowry furthermore I give and bequeath unto Sarah Read my well and beloved wife all the rest and residue of my estate both real and personal wheresoever it may be found to effectually enable her to pay all my just debts and funeral charges which I direct and order her to pay.

"Finally I nominate and ordain, constitute and appoint my said beloved wife Sarah Read and my respected son John Read my whole and sole executors of this my last will and testament ratifying and confirming this and no other to be my last will and testament.

"Eighth day of December 1780.

"Recorded Nov. 5, 1782. (signed) William Read."

The original will is in the Probate Court at Taunton, Mass.

4. OLIVER READ

The fourth son of John, Jr., and Mary (Pearce) Read, was born at Freetown, Oct. 14, 1701. He married Martha, the daughter of Thomas and Ann (Freeborn) Durfee of Portsmouth, on Dec. 20, 1730. His wife was born Feb. 20, 1702, at Portsmouth and they were married there. He died at some time between the date of his will and that of his brother William, who mentions the heirs of Oliver, in 1780. His own will is dated June 3, 1777. His wife died before his will was made.

Their children (found in Durfee records), born in Freetown:

JOSEPH, b. Dec. 11, 1732; m. Mary Knowles of Swansea, Jan. 10, 1760.

OLIVER, b. Aug. 21, 1734; m. Patience Brayton of Swansea, Feb. 14, 1754.

MARY, b. Mar. 31, 1736; m. Philip Slade of Swansea, Oct. 9, 1755.

JONATHAN, b. Nov. 13, 1737; m. 175— Eunice Weaver.

WAIT, b. Dec. 6, 1739; m. Samuel Weaver of Somerset, Dec. 5, 1760.

NATHAN, b. June 16, 1742; m. Phebe Terry of Freetown, May 11, 1775.

Benjamin, b. Mar 28, 1744; m. Elizabeth Dodson of Freetown Mar. 27, 1766.

GIDEON, b. Feb. 5, 1746; m. Mercy Winslow of Freetown. He died before 1777, leaving a child Elizabeth. (See will of his father, Oliver.)

Previous records give but little data concerning the life of this Oliver Read. French's Ancestry says, "There is nothing recorded of Oliver Reade—not even his trade." The inclusion of his will, therefore, given below, seems necessary for more complete knowledge on the subject. The lands left to him by his father are described as being in the village of Steep Brook and his business as that of a dealer in lumber. He wills to his sons Joseph and Oliver, each one "one half of my saw mill."

Both Oliver and his son Joseph, apparently were not interested in the tannery. He mentions, in his will, "a Convenient Cartway to the Northward of the sawmill to the new highway, from thence to my Landing place with Convenient Room to land such Timber wood boards or plank." He evidently engaged in converting the wooded lands bequeathed to him by his father, John, Jr., into tillable property and found it more congenial than shoe making.

His last will and testament is as follows:

"This Twenty third day of June One Thousand seven Hundred and seventy seven and in the first year of Continental Independence I, Oliver Read of Freetown in the County of Bristol in the state of Massachusetts bay in New England yeoman being in Perfect health & of a sound disposing mind & memory Calling to mind the Mortality of my body do make this my last will and Testament that is to say Principally and first of all I Resine my soul and body to my Creator in all Humble

hopes of its future happyness as in the disposal of a being infinitely good. As to my body my will is that it be decently buried at the discretion of my Executors hereafter Named and as touching such Worldly Estate as it has pleased God to Bless me with in this life I give devise and dispose of the same in the following manner and form.

"IMPRIMIS—I give and bequeathe Unto my well beloved son Joseph Read One part of my homestead farm with the buildings thereon and is buted and bounded as followeth Viz beginning at a stake and heap of stones on the south side of the brook and westward of the sawmill from thence to a stake and stones about south to the line between John Read and myself from thence Upon the line between John Read and myself to a stake and heap of stones Near the southeast Corner of the Old Rye field From thence to Near a Northeast Course to the End of the Stonewall and Extend as the Wall Runs to half the weadth of the lot from thence a parrelell line about west to my meadow fence then Turning of Northerly as the fence Runs to the Corner of the wall to the North Norwest Corner of the stable from thence to the North Norwest Corner of my Orchard from thence down to the Old Cart way to the Eastward of the sawmill from thence Northerly of the sawmill Untill it shall give a sufficient birth for gangway for Teams logs plank Timber and bords and to Extend westerly with all to the first mentioned bounds with a stake and stones about it and furthermore I give to my son Joseph Read the One half of my sawmill and flooms and dam and the One half of the Yeard for Timber to the North of the mill before mentioned and furthermore I give unto my son Joseph Read a Convenient Cartway to the Northward of the sawmill to the New Highway from thence to my Landing place with Convenient Room to land such Timber wood Boards or plank or any thing Else as he shall think propper to pass or Repass with I would Understood that this Priviledge of the landing place is on the North side of steep brook furthermore my will is and I give Unto my sd son Joseph my Negroe man Named simeon for the Term of six years After my decease I also give Unto my sd son Joseph my desk & One large silver spoon the above bequeathments that I have given Unto my sd son Joseph I give Unto him his heirs and Assigns for Ever—

"ITEM—I give and bequeath Unto my well beloved son Oliver Read One part of my homestead Farm and house thereon standing and is buted and bounded as follows (Viz) beginning at a stake & stones near the Highway thence Runing the Course of the highway to or Near the North End of Wattupper Pond thence Runing as the shore of the pond lies Until it Comes Unto the dividing line between Joseph Read and myself from thence Runing Near west the Cource of the line afforesd Until it Comes to a stake and stones about it Near the Corner of the Old Ryefield From thence to the stone wall and Continueing to One half of the weadth of the home stead lot from thence a parrilel line to my meadow fence From thence Northerly to the Corner of the wall thence Running westerly as the wall Runs Untill it Comes to a stake and stones from thence North Easterly to a stake and stones about it the first mentioned bounds Furthermore I give to my son Oliver the One half part of my sawmill—flooms and Tackle and geer thereunto belonging together with the One half of the Timber yeardy to the Northard of sd mill and likewise a Convenient Cartway to the Northard to the New highway from thence to my landing on the Northside of steepbrook and to have Convenient Room For landing of Timber plank plankwood bords and to pass & Repass with Team or Teams at any and all Times and Furthermore my will is & I give Unto my son Oliver my black boy will, and One large silver spoon I further give Unto my son Oliver the One half part of my wareing Apparril & silver Coat buttons the above and foregoing gifts that I have given Unto my son Oliver I give Unto him his heirs and Assigns forever—

"ITEM—I give and Bequeath Unto my well beloved son Jonathan Real One part of my homstead farm and is buted and bounded as Followeth (Viz) begining at a stake and stones in the line between John Read and myself thence Runing Nearwest as the line Runs between the sd John Read and myself Untill it comes to the Country Rode and from thence west ward to Taunton great River Northerly on the shore as the River Runs to the middle of the brook Called steepbrook thence up sd brook Untill it Comes to a black oak Tree marked on Two sides a little to the west ward of the Tanfats thence Notherly Untill it Comes to the Top of the hill thence Easterly Untill it Comes to an Oak Tree marked on Two sides thence to the brook thence westward of the mill to a stake & stones and from thence to the first mentioned bounds with the house and all and Every of the Other buildings and Tanfats & one large silver spoon my will is that the above gifts and bequeathments that I have given unto my son Jonathan Read I give Unto him his heirs and Assigns forever.

"ITEM—I give and bequeathe Unto my well beloved son Nathan Read a Certain lot of Land in my homestead farm and is buted and bounded as follows (Viz) begining at the Corner of the stonewall Near the lower bars and Extend Northerly as the wall now Runs Untill it Comes to the Wall to the south of the New highway thence Extending as the Runs westerly Untill it Comes to the Country Rode and from the West of the Rode by Wm. Winslows line Untill it Comes to Taunton great River from thence about south as the River Runs Untill it Comes to the middle of steep brook stream untill it Comes to a black Oak Tree marked on Two sides Near the Tanfats thence notherly to the Top of the hill thence Easterly Untill it Comes

to an Oak Tree marked On Two sides to the middle of the brook & from thence Notherly to a stake and stones to the west of the mill from thence a Curve line to the Old Cartway to East of the mill so as there shall be a sufficient Room for timber logs that may be manufactured at sd mill and from sd Cartway thence Running to the End of sd Wall the first mentioned bounds. I also give Unto my son Nathan my black Girl Named Rose for the Term of seven years after my decease the above & foregoing Bequeathments I give to my son Nathan his heirs and Assigns forever—

"ITEM—I give and Bequeath Unto my Well beloved son Benjamin Read My Ten Acre lot of Land in Shawammet in the Township of Swanzey Adjoining to the land of my brother Read which Land my Honoured Father gave me in his last will and Testament this I bequeathe Unto my sd son Benjamin his Heirs and Assigns, forever I also give him my sd son Benjamin One Large silver spoon—

"ITEM—I give and bequeath Unto my Three well beloved sons—(Viz) Jonathan Nathan and Benjamin sixty Acres of my land lying on the East side of Wattupper Pond & to be Equally divided between them my sd sons and is butted and bounded as followeth (Viz) westerly on Wattupper Pond—southardly on William Read land & Notherly on Aron Davis and to Extend so far East on William Reads line and Aron Davis so far East as to make the full complement of Sixty Acres Unto them my sd sons Jonathan Nathan & Benjamin their heirs and Assigns forever—

"ITEM—I give and bequeathe Unto my Two other before mentioned sons Joseph & Oliver the whole Residue or Remainder part of my lands Lying to the Eastardly of sd Wattupper Pond to be equally divided between them my Two sd sons Joseph and Oliver Unto them their heirs and Assigns forever—

"ITEM—I also give my Two sd sons Oliver and Joseph my salt marsh Meadow at Shawammet in the township of Swansey to be Equally divided between them my Two sd sons Joseph and Oliver to them their Heirs and Assigns forever—

"ITEM—and my will is that my Afforesd sons to whom I have bequested my Estate shall from time to time and at all times have a way to pass and Repass through Each Others lands along the path that is now Used and Improved for the Conveniency of transporting anything from or to their wood lots or the shores or warehouse by the shore and further more my will is that those my sd sons shall do their proportionable Part in maintaining of bars and gates that may or shall be Necessaryly Erected on said path—

"ITEM—I give and bequeathe Unto my well beloved daughter Wait Weaver the Other half part of my household goods to be Equally Divided between she the sd Wait and her sister Mary Slade and also One Cow & Ten Sheep—

"ITEM—I give and bequeath Unto my well beloved grand Daughter Elizabeth Read Infant to Gideon Read Deceased One Certain piece of land lying to the Northard of my house and is buted & bounded as follows (Viz) begining at a stake and heap of stones thence west as the wall Runs to the Cross wall thence south to the End of the wall by the bars to the Eastward of the mill thence East to a heap of stones and stake thence North to the first mentioned bounds Unto her the sd Elizabeth when she shall arive to the years of Eighteen to her heirs and Assigns Forever I also give and bequeath Unto my sd grand daughter One feather bed and beding that I now ly Upon and One silver spoon—

"ITEM—And my will is that after my black man simeon hath served my sd son Joseph six years after my decease that he the sd Simeon shall be Freed and sat at liberty & furthermore my will is that my black girl Rose be set at liberty & made free after she has served my son Nathan seven years—

"ITEM—I give my sd Two sons Joseph & Oliver besides what I have above given them in this my will all my Cash and Credits I die seizd of and also all my Outdore movable Estate which I have not given away in this my will to be Equally divided between them they paying all my Just debts funural Charges of setling my Estate to be paid out of the Bequests I have herein Given them in this my will And in case there be any of my Estate not dispoesd of in this my will my sd Two sons Joseph and Oliver shall Equally share it between them—

"ITEM—and furthermore I do constitute make and ordain my sd Two sons Joseph and Oliver Joint Executors of this my last will and Testament & I do Utterly disallow & revoke all and Every other former wills made by me before this time Ratifying this and no other to be my last will and Testament in Witness whereof I have hereunto sett my hand & seal the day and year above written.

"The witnesses: Oliver Read." [Seal]
Nathan Brightman,
Thomas Butts and
Amos Lewis.

4. JONATHAN READ

Son of John, Jr., and Mary (Pearce) Read, was born at Freetown, Jan. 23, 1705. He was married to Hope Durfee, the daughter of Benjamin and Prudence (Earle) Durfee, of Tiverton, Mar. 28, 1730.

She was born Jan. 7, 1705. Jonathan died at Freetown, June 25, 1750, and she died Apr. 5, 1734.

They had but one child, James, to whom his grandfather bequeathed one hundred pounds, to be paid to him when he reached the age of twenty-one.

Jonathan was brother to Oliver, whose wife, Martha Durfee, was own cousin to Hope Durfee.

4. JOSEPH READ

Son of John, Jr., and Mary (Pearce) Read, was born at Freetown, Mar. 5, 1708. He married Grace Pray, at Freetown, Jan. 25, 1732/3. His death is not recorded and he is not mentioned in his father's will.

The History of Freetown states, "Joseph Read appeared before Thomas Terry, Esq. 21 June 1740, took oath to the trust when he was chosen Preserver of deer." It also gives his name as Town Clerk from 1738 to 1744.

Their children were:

WILLIAM, b. 1732; m. Ruth Evans, Dec. 3, 1761; m. 2nd, Dorothy, the daughter of his cousin, Rev. Samuel Read.

BENJAMIN, b. Nov. 15, 1733; m. Sarah Evans, Oct. 19, 1758. She was born Apr. 18, 1740. He died Sept., 1802.

HANNAH, b. 1734; m. Oliver Whitwell of Freetown.

JOSEPH, b. 1735/6; m. Mary, daughter of Thos. and Dinah Cornell, Dec. 5, 1754. He died about 1793.

GRACE, b. ——; m. Robert Collins, July 6, 1758.

4. NATHAN READ

According to the original records at Assonet, the name is given as the son of John and Mary (Pearce) Read, but no mention is made of him, either in his father's will or in later records, after a diligent search. He was born Feb. 23, 1711.

4. JOSEPH READ

Son of Joseph and Sarah (Deane) Read, born at Freetown, Jan. 23, 1710.

4. SAMUEL READ

Son of Joseph and Sarah (Deane) Read, born at Freetown Dec. 23, 1715; was married to Mercy Sawyer of Tiverton, Feb. 6, 1741. (She was a descendant of Elizabeth Peabody.) Samuel died Mar. 1, 1791. Mercy died Oct. 7, 1790.

Their children were:

DOROTHY, b. 1745; m. William Read, the father of Joseph E., she being his second wife. She died Jan. 5, 1815.

PRISCILLA, b. 1747; m. Pardon Davoll, Apr. 12, 1768.

RUTH, b. 1750.

Samuel Read was a prominent man in the town affairs, and was known as Deacon Read. Leaving no sons, a nephew and his son-in-law, William, succeeded to his estate, it being the same where Joseph E. Read lived and died.

There is an old family burying ground on this farm and also another in an adjoining close, which is, or has been, the burying place of some of the Brightman family, in which is the grave of Mary Read Brightman, the wife of Henry. (See History of Read families.)

5. JOHN READ

Son of John and Sarah (Borden) Read, born at Freetown, Nov. 17, 1720; married Ruth Lawton, Jan. 9, 1745, also of Freetown. From the original records at Assonet, "John Read the son of John Read the thurd and of Sarah his wife was born November the 17 day of one thousand seven hundred and twenty, 1720."

GEORGE, b. ——; m. Ruth Hathaway, Jan. 3, 1797.

STEPHEN, b. Nov. 28, 1747.

MARTIN, b. Sept. 24, 1768; m. Sarah Whitwell. (She was born Nov. 27, 1768.) He died July 8, 1805.

5. OLIVER READ

Son of Oliver and Martha (Durfee) Read, born at Freetown, Aug. 21, 1734; married, 1st, Patience Brayton, Feb. 14, 1754, daughter of Baulston and Margaret (Lee) Brayton of Swansea; married, 2nd, Hannah Collins, July 16, 1759. His will was signed Sept. 29, 1814, but date of death is not recorded.

Children:

ISAAC, b. Dec. 26, 1754; m. Diadama Shearman (alias Gray), Sept. 25, 1781.

NANCY, b. Sept. 7, 1756. (Changed from Anna thru "Nan" to Nancy?) [Ed.]

MARY, b. Mar. 20, 1761; m. Thos. Collins, Dec. 8, 1789.

JOB, 2nd, b. Oct. 24, 1763; m. Sylvia Cleaveland, Oct. 26, 1797.

CONTENT, b. July 23, 1765; m. Joseph Dotee, July 19, 1793.

PATIENCE, b. Aug. 9, 1767; m. Thomas Knight of Tiverton, Nov. 23, 1789.

GIDEON, b. Mar. 2, 1770; m. Margaret (Peggy) Hilton, Apr. 16, 1789.

MARTHA, b. June 21, 1772; m. Elisha Hathaway, Mar. 18, 1799.

OLIVER, b. Apr. 20, 1778; m. Sarah.

BRAYTON, b. Dec. 19, 1780; m. Elizabeth Shettleston, Nov. 20, 1799.

In Oliver Sr.'s will he mentions his eldest daughter as Anna Freelove. She married Thomas Freelove in 1785 or 6. He died and she married George, son of George and Ruth Hathaway, June 23, 1824.

The will of Oliver, Sr., is as follows, as recorded in the Probate Court at Taunton.

"Be it remembered that I, Oliver Read of Troy in the County of Bristol and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, being of a sound mind and perfect memory, Considering the Uncertainty of this Mortal life, now being of A sound mind, Blessed be allmity God for the same Do make, and publish, this my last will and testament in the manner and form following Viz.—

IMPRIMIS—I give and bequeath unto my beloved wife Hannah Reed, all my Household furniture, Except what I shall here after give away in this my last will and testament, I also give unto my said Wife One Cow, out of my stock. I give and bequeath unto my beloved Wife the use and improvement of One third part of the Land that I shall hereafter give to my son Brayton Reed, together with One third part of my Dwelling House thereon, Said gift of improvement is to her during her Widowhood, and no longer.

"ITEM—I give and bequeath unto my Eldest Son Isaac Reed, One dollar in addition to what I have allready given him to be paid by my Executor hereafter named.

"ITEM—I give and bequeath unto my Second Son Job Reeds Heirs, Jacob and Lucy, One Dollar Each to be paid by my Executor hereafter named.

"ITEM—I give and bequeath unto my third son Gideon Reed, a certain Lot of Land that I purchased of David Stafford in Troy. Said gift is to him his Heirs and assigns forever.

"ITEM—I give and bequeath unto my fourth Son Olliver Reed a Certain Lot of Land that he now lives on, the Northwest Corner of said lot of Land, makes a Corner of the highway, that leads to Dartmouth Easterly and Southerly to new boston so Called, and to Continue Southerly by said Road, untill it comes to the South Side of my Land to the Land of Nathan Reed, then Easterly by said Nathans Land, till it Comes to a stonewall, then Northerly by said stonewall to the Highway, then westerly by the Highway to the first mentioned Corner, to have and to hold the same to him his Heirs and assigns forever—I also give unto my said Son Oliver Reed all my wearing aparell—

"ITEM—I give and bequeath unto my fifth Son Brayton Reed, all my Homestead Farm, to the westward of the great Pond, so called, up to the Land I heretofore gave to my son Olliver Reed, Together with all the Buildings thereon, said gift is to Him, his Heirs and assigns forever, he paying his assigned Legacies—

"I also give and bequeath unto my said son Brayton Reed all my Woodlands, and all other Lands that I have not heretofore given away in this my last will and testament, to him, his Heirs, and assigns, forever, he paying my just debts and funeral Charges—

"ITEM—I give unto my Eldest Daughter Anna Freelove, One Dollar in addition to what I have allready given her, to be paid by my Executor hereafter named—

"ITEM—I give unto my second Daughter Martha Hathaway, One Dollar in addition to what I have allready given her, to be paid her by my Executor named—

"ITEM—I give unto my fourth Daughter Content Dotta, One Dollar in addition to what I have allready given her, to be paid her, by my Executor hereafter named—

"ITEM—I give unto my fifth daughter Patience Knight, One Dollar in addition to what I have allready given her, to be paid her, by my Executor hereafter named—

"ITEM—I give unto my sixth Daughter Mahaly Reed, One Dollar in addition to what I have allready given her, to be paid her by my Executor hereafter named—

"ITEM—I give unto my Third Daughter Mary Collins, One Dollar in addition to what I have allready given her, to be paid her, by my Executor hereafter named—

"ITEM—I give unto my grand Daughter Ruth Reed, One good Feather bed, Bolster, and Pillows, to be Delivered her at the age of Eighteen years, to be delivered her, by my beloved Wife Hannah Reed—

"ITEM—I give and bequeath unto my fifth Son Brayton Reed, all the rest, and residue, and Remainder, of my personal Estate, that I have not heretofore given away, of what kind and nature soever, I give to him, the said Braton Reed, Whom I hereby appoint, Sole Executor, of this my Last Will and testament, Ratifying, and Confirming this and no other, to be my last will and testament, Revokeing all former Wills, by me made—

"In witness whereof I have hereunto Set my hand, and Seal, this Twenty ninth Day of September, in the year of our Lord, One Thousand Eight hundred & fourteen.

Oliver Read." [Seal]

"Signed, sealed, published and delivered,
by the above named Oliver Reed to be his last
Will and Testament, in the presence of us, who
at his Request & in his presence have hereunto
Subscribed our names as witnesses to the same:
Job Snell
Barney Snell
Clark Purinton

5. JOHN READ

Son of William and Sarah (Smith) Read, born at Newport in 1729; married Mary Corey Mar. 17, 1754. She was born Mar. 15, 1731. He went with his father to Somerset when the British occupied Newport and died there Apr. 8, 1802. His widow died Aug. 16, 1807. Their grave stones are still preserved in the cemetery at South Somerset.

The children (from the family Bible):

WILLIAM Corey, b. June 17, 1755; d. Aug. 3, 1756.

WILLIAM, b. July 5, 1761; m. Ruth Chase, Oct. 22, 1804; d. Mar. 14, 1853.

SARAH, b. Jan. 12, 1763; m. Eben Sage, Oct. 31, 1782; d. Dec. 2, 1816.

JOHN, b. May 25, 1765; m. Eliza Dennis Jan. 9, 1798; d. Nov. 12, 1818.

MARY, b. Dec. 22, 1766; m. Epaphras Jones, June 8, 1788; d. Oct. 6, 1821.

NATHAN, b. Nov. 18, 1768; d. Dec. 8, 1771.

NATHAN, b. Jan 24, 1774; m. Phebe Chase; d. Dec. 4, 1843.

In Mass. Soldiers and Sailors in the Revolution, there is the following:

"John Read of Swansea, private in Capt. Peleg Peck's Co. Col. Thomas Carpenter's (Bristol County) reg. entered service July 27, 1778, discharged Sept. 10, 1778 at R. I. Also, in the same Co. and Reg. entered service Aug. 2, 1780; Disc. Aug. 9, 1780. Company marched to Tiverton on alarm."

He is also mentioned in the Newport records as Deputy to the General Court in 1773 and 1774 and as overseer of the poor in 1775.

5. NATHAN READ

Son of William and Sarah (Smith) Read, born at Newport, Nov. 8, 1741; married, May 29, 1777, Content Brayton of Swansea, who was born in 1758, the daughter of Israel Brayton. He died at Somerset Mar. 12, 1819, leaving but one child, Preserved, who was born Dec. 18, 1777, and married Nancy Winslow, Aug. 7, 1806.

In the Revolutionary Muster Roll of Swansea the name of Nathan appears with that of his brother John of Swansea.

5. JOSEPH READ

Son of Oliver and Martha (Durfee) Read, born at Freetown, Dec. 11, 1732; was married in Swansea Jan. 10, 1760, to Mary Knowles of Swansea. He died at Freetown in 1791 and his widow died Oct., 1816.

Their children:

JOSEPH, b. 1761; d. Aug. 26, 1791.

JAMES, b.

In the Oak Grove Cemetery at Fall River, are the graves of Joseph, Sr., and Joseph, Jr., and of Mary, the widow.

5. JOSEPH READ

Son of Joseph and Grace (Pray) Read, born at Freetown in 1735 or 6; married Mary, the daughter of Thomas and Dinah Cornell of Newport, Dec. 5, 1754. He died about 1793, at Troy, then a part of Freetown, now Fall River.

Their children:

PHOEBE, b. Nov. 25, 1755; m. Capt. Jonathan Barnaby Mar. 14, 1798.

SAMUEL, b. Aug. 4, 1757; m. Charity Bourne, 1778/9; rem. to Colchester, Conn., and d. Dec. 29, 1832.

GEORGE G., b. Dec. 14, 1760; m. Isabel Evans, Oct. 20, 1788; d. Dec. 6, 1801.

JOSEPH, b. Mar. 9, 1763.

JAMES, b. 1768; m. Rebecca Barton, Oct. 7, 1796; d. Oct. 21, 1814.

NANCY, b. 1770 or 72; m. Nathan Bowen.

SARAH (date of birth not found); m. Enoch French, July 30, 1800.

Joseph Read, Sr., was a tanner and shoemaker and had his tan yard and factory near the east bridge of Troy.

French's American Ancestry states:

"It was to him that Enoch French was apprenticed when his mother put him to learn a trade. Joseph died soon after and his son James continued the business. Then, when James was called to the ministry, Enoch French bought the tannery, and also the Read Homestead. (He had already married James' youngest sister, Sarah.)"

The following is the settlement of Joseph, Sr.'s estate, from the records of the Probate Court at Taunton, Mass.

"Pursuant to an order to us from the Honourable Seth Paddleford Esqr. Judge of Probate of Wills &c in & for the County of Bristol to Appraise the Real and Personal Estate that Joseph Read Late of Freetown in sd County Deceased, Died Seized of, After Payment of his Just Debts & Charges of Administration, &c. to set off to Mary Read Widow of sd Deceased Her third of Right of Dower in sd Estate—Being Duly Qualified as the Law Directs—& After Having Viewed the Real Estate Consisting of one Lot Containing one fourth Part of an Acre of Land Including a Dwelling House Tanyard and Tanhouse & Also one Lot of Land Containing Seven and Half Acres, Appraised them at Six hundred Dollars—

"We then Proceeded to Set off one third Part of the Same to the Widow of sd Deceased for her third or Right of Dower in the following Manner—that is—the Southwest Room & West Bedroom in the Dwelling House Also a Priviledge in the Kitchen to Wash & Bake with Priviledge to & through sd Kitchen to the Yard to the Well or Water & Country Road With Priviledge in the Cellar to Keep her Sauce &c & Also Land for a Garden Beginning at the Southeast Corner of sd House & to Continue Southerly in Range of sd House fifty feet then Sixty four feet westerly to the Bars at the Country Road thence Northerly By the Country Road to Joseph Churches Land thence Easterly By sd Churches Land to the Middle of the House Excepting a Priviledge to Pass through the Same to & from the Curriers Shop in the Cellar & Also A Lot in the Seven & Half Acre Piece Being the Second from the West End & Bounded Westerly By the first Lot Easterly By the third Lot Southerly By Charles Durfees Land & Northerly By James Dennisons Land Being A Wood Lot Including a Small yard Walled in at the Southwest Corner of sd Lot All Which We Appraised at Two hundred Dollars.

"We Also Set off to the Widow Her third Part of What Remained of sd Deceaseds Personal Esate.

"After payment of his Debts & Charges of Administration the Remaining Part of sd Estate Both Real & Personal Including the Revision of the Widows thirds or Right of Dower Was Settled to the General Satisfaction of All the Heirs Being all Present at the Division of sd Estate—this third Day of October in the year of our

Lord Eighteen hundred & One—They All having Given Deed to Enoch French Who Married one of the Heirs.

Simeon Borden
Pardon Davol
Jona Read

"Bristoll ss. February 2nd 1802 Having examined the foregoing Division I do allow of the same & order it to be of record.

Seth Padelford J Prob.

5. WILLIAM READ

Son of Joseph and Grace (Pray) Read, born at Freetown, 1732; married, Dec. 3, 1761, Ruth, the daughter of John and Ruth (Winslow) Evans. She was born Feb. 19, 1742, and died Jan. 9, 1793. He married, 2nd, Dorothy, the daughter of his cousin, the Rev. Samuel Read. She was born in 1745 and died Jan. 5, 1815. He died Dec. 25, 1813.

Children, all by first marriage:

ELIZABETH, b. July 9, 1763; m. Simeon Burr, May 8, 1783. She d. Apr. 8, 1848. He d. Jan. 1, 1800.

REBECCA, b. June 14, 1765; m. Guilford Evans, Dec. 11, 1783. She d. Dec. 30, 1796.

RUTH, b. Apr. 27, 1767; m. Robert Porter, Mar. 22, 1792. She d. Nov. 26, 1827.

WILLIAM, b. July 15, 1769; m. Prudence Valentine, Jan. 28, 1798. He d. Nov. 8, 1852.

SARAH, b. July 15, 1769 (twins); m. James Wrightington, Apr. 21, 1802.

THOMAS, b. July 19, 1771; d. Oct. 22, 1845.

RACHEL, b. July 1, 1773; m. Anson Bliffins, May 26, 1796.

JOHN, b. Apr. 5, 1775; m. Rosamond Hathaway, Mar. 21, 1799. He d. Aug. 31, 1847.

JOSEPH E., b. Sept. 14, 1776; m. Sybil Valentine, June 19, 1803. He d. July 6, 1857.

AMY, b. Jan. 3, 1779; m. Jonathan Hathaway of New Bedford, Oct. 23, 1803.

NANCY, b. Oct. 8, 1781; m. Ezra Davol, July 30, 1809. She d. Oct. 14, 1842.

PHOEBE, b. Oct. 4, 1783; m. Henry Brightman, Jr., Feb. 8, 1807.

William, Sr., was a member of the Committee of Correspondence and Safety from 1777 to 1781, and served as a Deputy Sheriff and Selectman.

The following, from the History of Freetown, is a tribute to his patriotism:

"William Read of Freetown—Petition dated Boston, Oct. 12, 1782, Signed by said Read, in behalf of Benjamin Weaver of Freetown and others, asking that he, (the said Read) be commissioned as Commander of the small cedar boat 'Defiance' signed by Thomas Durfee, certifies that said Read of Freetown 'is a firm friend to the liberties of America and can be confided in'."

5. BENJAMIN READ

Son of Oliver and Martha (Durfee) Read, born at Freetown, Mar. 28, 1744; married Elizabeth Dodson, Mar. 27, 1766.

5. GIDEON READ

Son of Oliver and Martha (Durfee) Read, born at Freetown, Feb. 5, 1746; married Mercy Winslow, date not found. He died before the date his father's will was signed (June 3, 1777), leaving an infant daughter, Elizabeth, to whom the grandfather left a piece of land.

5. MARY READ

Daughter of Oliver and Martha (Durfee) Read, born at Freetown, Mar 31, 1736; married, Oct. 9, 1755, Philip Slade of Swansea, son of Edward and Phebe (Chase) Slade. He died at Pittstown, N. Y., July 31, 1803, and she died Mar. 12, 1806. They had twelve children.

5. JONATHAN READ

Son of Oliver and Martha (Durfee) Read, born at Freetown, Nov. 13, 1737; married Eunice, daughter of Benjamin and Ruth (Sheffield) Weaver, Apr. 24, 1757. His death date has not been found. The latest mention of him is as owner, with his son Jonathan, of the sloop Antelope, built at Freetown in 1802. He died at Steep Brook.

Their children were:

FORMAN, b. Sept. 27, 1757.

ICHABOD, b. Apr. 26, 1760; m. Elizabeth Law, at Swansea, Oct. 8, 1780. He died Dec. 5, 1796, and was buried at Steep Brook.

JAMES, b. June 7, 1762.

LYDIA, b. Sept. 7, 1764; m. Capt. Sheffield Weaver, Aug. 23, 1792. She died Oct. 6, 1833. He died July 26, 1839.

ELIZABETH, b.; m. Capt. Robert Gibbs, Sept. 30, 1802, of Somerset.

SUSANNAH, b. July 3, 1767; m. Luther Wilson, Dec. 20, 1789. She died in 1848.

EUNICE, b.; d. July 23, 1844.

HANNAH, b. Aug. 1, 1769; m. James Whitwell, Aug. 3, 1793.

JONATHAN, JR., b. Sept. 7, 1771; m. Eleanor Law of Somerset, Mar. 31, 1792.

Concerning Jonathan, Sr.'s public life, we find him quite prominent in the community. He was elected Treasurer in 1772 and served ten years. In 1774, elected Selectman and served twelve years. He was on the Committee of Correspondence and Safety with his cousin Benjamin, serving from 1776 to 1779, and was one of the Assessors in 1794.

5. BENJAMIN READ

Son of Joseph and Grace (Pray) Read, born at Freetown, Nov. 15, 1733; married Sarah Evans of Freetown (she b. Apr. 18, 1740), on Oct. 19, 1758. He died Oct. 8, 1802.

Their children:

BAILEY, b. Mar. 29, 1759; m. Elizabeth Valentine, in 1785.

SARAH, b. Feb. 19, 1761; m. Bellony Chase of Freetown, Nov. 20, 1783.

CHARLOTTE, b. Feb. 16, 1763; m. Silas Hathaway, Jr., June 5, 1780.

MARY, b. Dec. 16, 1765.

SUSANNAH, b. Jan. 12, 1767.

PHEBE, b. Mar. 2, 1769.

HANNAH, b. June 8, 1771.

RUTH, b. 1773

BENJAMIN, b. Apr. 1, 1774; d. early in 1802.

RUBY, b. Aug. 26, 1776; m. Jesse Chase, Dec. 25, 1798.

GRACE, b. Mar. 17, 1779; m. Jonathan Cartwright of Dighton, Oct. 23, 1796.

CLARISSA, b. Feb. 22, 1781; m. Gilbert Tisdale, Oct. 28, 1798.

DEAN HASLETT, b. May 8, 1783; m. Joanna Nelson of Freetown, Aug. 12, 1804.

JAMES P., b. Mar. 9, 1785; m. Charity Kennedy, Jan. 3, 1808.

TAMER, b. Mar. 9, 1785 (twin); d. Mar. 25, 1785.

Benjamin, Sr., served as a Selectman from 1789 to 1792, and as an Assessor in 1796.

His military career was more conspicuous. According to the History of Freetown:

"The first company of militia was formed in Freetown in 1683 and was commanded by Thomas Terry. This company retained its organization for more than one hundred years and had two terms of service in the War of the Revolution, and was commanded in that war by Captain Benjamin Read."

The roll of the company is given for the year 1780, in which appears the name William Read and several others who are mentioned in this record. Benjamin also served with his cousin Jonathan, on the Committee of Correspondence and Safety, according to the following:

"On February 20th, 1776, a meeting was called in His Majesty's name, which met March 4th, and chose a Committee of Correspondence Inspection and Safety and voted to build boats to cross the water in if our enemies should attack our friends on the other shore of Taunton River. The Committee chosen were, Stephen Borden, Jonathan Reed, Samuel Barnaby, Abner Winslow, Benjamin Reed, Philip Hathaway, Major Norton, Nathaniel Morton and Capt. Levi Rounseville."

At a meeting of the town, May 22nd, Benjamin was again elected to serve on a committee to draft a resolution concerning the future form of government which had been under discussion in the State conventions.

5. NATHAN READ

Son of Oliver and Martha (Durfee) Read, born at Freetown, June 16, 1742; married Phebe Terry of Freetown, May 11, 1775.

But one child can be found recorded, Robert, who was born at Swansea, Mar. 3, 1779.

The following is found in "Mass. Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolution":

"Nathan of Swansea, private in Capt. Peleg Shearman's Co. Col. Thomas Carpenter's (Bristol Co.) reg. Service on a secret expedition to Rhode Island, at request of General Spencer. Mileage allowed from Swansea to Howland's Ferry. Again entered service Aug. 2, 1780."

6. DEAN HASLETT READ

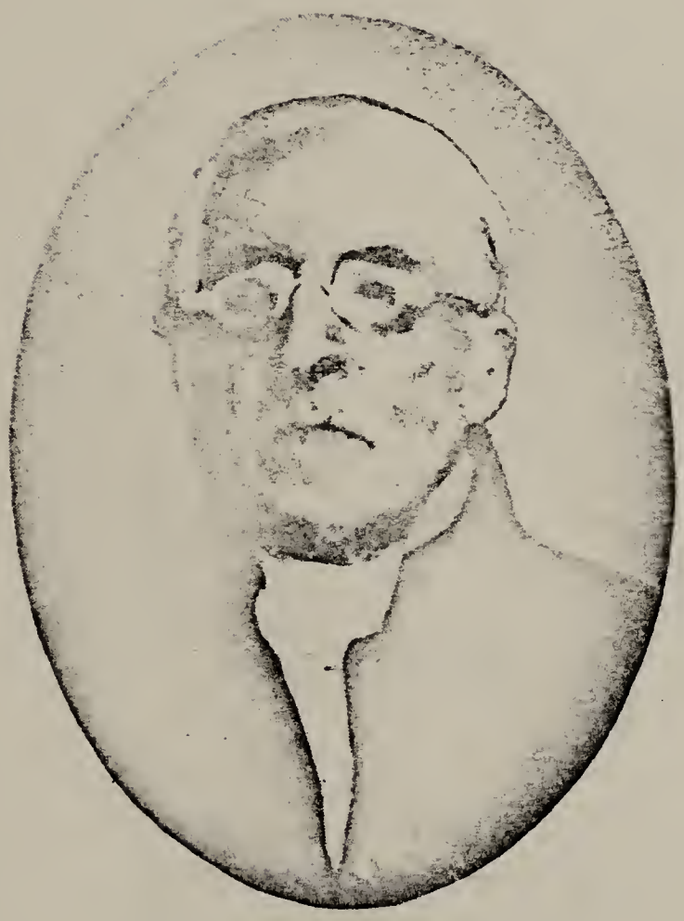
Son of Benjamin and Sarah (Evans) Read, born at Freetown, May 8, 1783; married Joanna Nelson of Freetown, Aug. 12, 1804.

Children:

FRANCIS NELSON, b. Mar. 6, 1805.

ANNA STROBRIDGE, b. Apr. 19, 1807; m. Adoniram Cushman of Middleboro.

SARAH, b. July 31, 1811; d. Oct. 4, 1813.



Capt. WILLIAM READ
Son of John and Mary Corey

(?) STEPHEN READ, SECOND

Son of Joseph (?) and Ruth, born; married Penelope Shearman, Oct. 26, 1797.

Children:

HANNAH, b. Jan. 18, 1798.
JOSEPH, b. Sept. 8, 1799.
CARLTON, b. Sept. 7, 1801.
RUTH, b. Aug. 2, 1803.
DORCAS, b. Aug. 13, 1807.
DEBORAH, b. Sept. 13, 1807.
ASA LYONS, b. Dec. 9, 1809.

6. OLIVER READ, SECOND

Son of Oliver and Hannah (Collins) Read, born at Troy, Apr. 20, 1778; married Sarah.

Children:

OLIVER, b. Sept. 24, 1801.
GILBERT, b. Apr. 9, 1803.
MERIBY, b. May 17, 1805.
THOMAS, b. Apr. 7, 1807.

6. JOHN READ

Son of William and Ruth (Evans) Read, born at Freetown, Apr. 5, 1775; married Rosamond Hathaway, Mar. 21, 1799 (she born June 30, 1781). He died Aug. 31, 1847.

Their children:

RUTH, b. Apr. 20, 1800; m. Geo. Pickens of Freetown. He d. Jan. 7, 1842. She d. Aug. 14, 1861.
THOMAS, b. Mar. 20, 1802.
DIADAMA, b. Dec. 15, 1803; d. July 23, 1804.
JOHN, b. Mar., 1805; d. July 5, 1824.
NANCY, b. July 29, 1807; d. Aug. 27, 1808.
WILLIAM, b. Mar. 13, 1809; m. Eliza Staples, Apr. 28, 1838. He d. July 8, 1870.
JOSEPH H., b. Sept. 11, 1811.
WASHINGTON H., b. July 2, 1813; m. Caroline Chace.
MARTHA N., b. Jan. 26, 1815; m. James Phillips.
ROSAMOND H., b. Mar. 28, 1817; d. May, 1836.
EDSON H., b. Feb. 11, 1819; d. in Georgia; unmarried.

6. WILLIAM READ

Son of John and Mary (Corey) Read, born at Newport, July 5, 1761; married Ruth Chase of Somerset, Oct. 22, 1804. He died at Somerset, Mar. 14, 1853. She, born Apr. 2, 1786, died there, Oct. 14, 1864.

The difference in the ages of William and his wife may be noticed. The following story, well remembered by his children, confirms the records:

"When William was home from a voyage, just before the birth of Ruth, he was sent for the doctor. Upon his return he remarked to her parents that if a girl was born, he would wait for and marry her. He kept his promise."

She was spoken of as a girl as "little Ruth Chase" on account of her size.

Their children were:

WILLIAM EBEN, b. Oct. 5, 1805; d. Oct. 1, 1808.

RUTH ANN, b. Mar. 8, 1807; m. Oliver H. Bush of Fall River, May 6, 1830; d. Jan. 21, 1904.

WILLIAM, JR., b. Oct. 18, 1808; m. Elizabeth T. Bartlett of Plymouth, Apr. 22, 1834; d. Jan. 7, 1876.

EBEN SAGE, b. Oct. 16, 1810; m. Sarah A. Cutts.

MARY COREY, b. Sept. 3, 1812; m. John Brayton of Fall River, Nov. 25, 1834; d. at Fall River, Mar. 12, 1895.

EPAPHRAS, b. Dec. 31, 1814; m., 1st, Anna G. Luther; 2nd, Deborah Wilson; and 3rd, Rachel Louisa Holmes. He died Apr. 22, 1901.

GEORGE, b. Nov. 26, 1816; m., 1st, Emeline Howell, and 2nd, Jane Winslow. He died Feb. 12, 1887.

SARAH, b. June 14, 1819; died unmarried.

ELIZABETH WARNER, b. June 30, 1821; m. Rev. John Livesey, July 22, 1845. They had no children.

William, Sr., whose first few years of life were passed near the sea, early became possessed with a desire for a sea faring life. He took easily to it at the age of fourteen and rose rapidly to the rank of master of large vessels. When but twenty-nine, he commanded the brig Commerce on a voyage from Bristol, R. I., to Surinam, and in 1800 he was master of the famous clipper ship Bedford, sailing from Newport on Mar. 2, 1800, for Calcutta and returning Apr. 18, 1801.

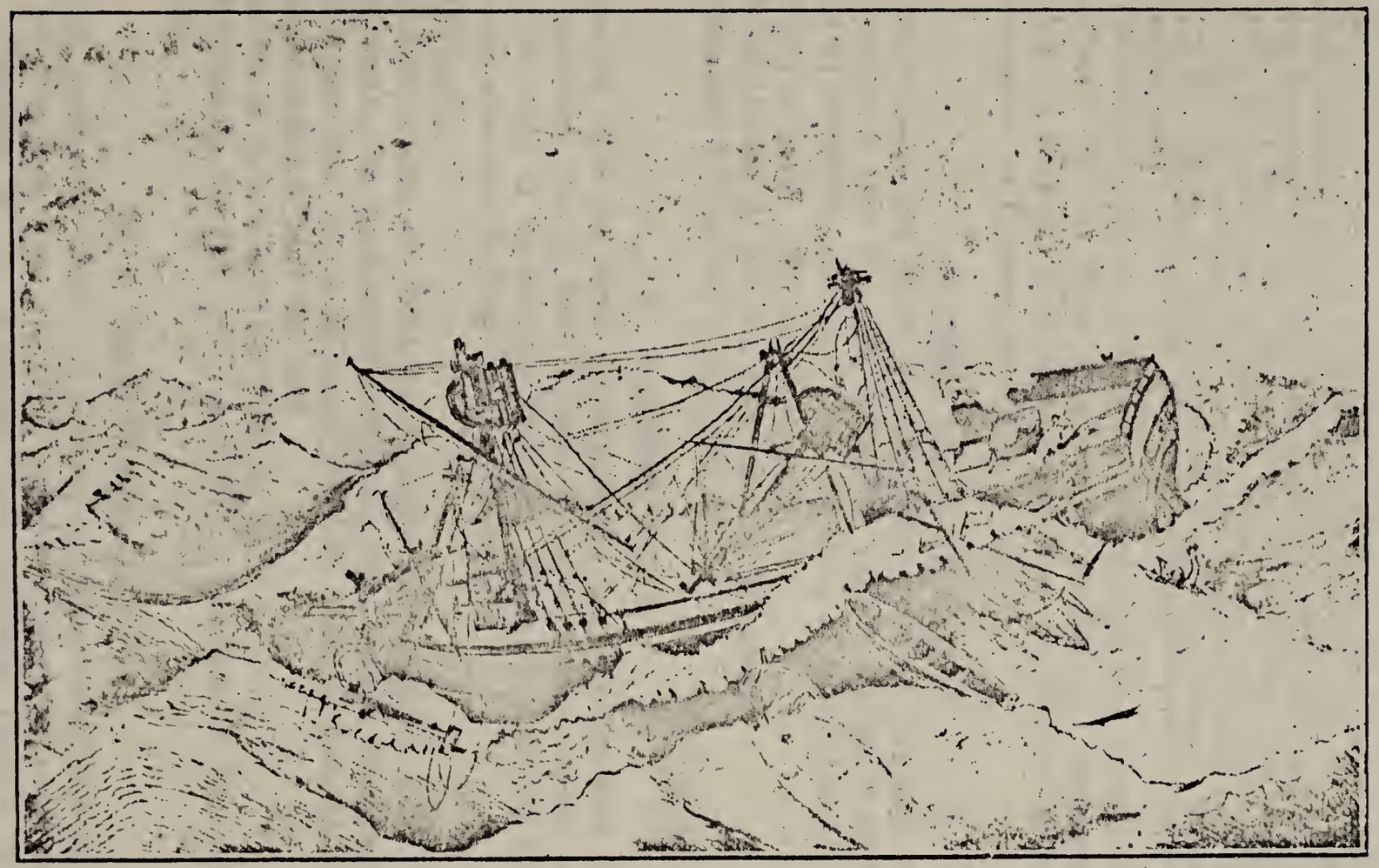
His most eventful and strenuous sea life, however, was while in command of the brig Mary, on a voyage from Newport to Dublin, Ireland. On Jan. 7, 1796, his vessel was dismasted in a violent gale and barely escaped foundering. With hard labor and good seamanship he "carried on" and brought the vessel safely to the Irish coast.

His second mate, a Mr. Read, according to the ship's log, was washed overboard during the gale.

After four more years of strenuous life at sea, Captain Read, from his brief visits to Somerset, discovered that a wife and a farm were more attractive and he settled down to the cultivation of the land at the old homestead of his ancestors in Somerset.

He soon became prominent in the town and church affairs and took an active part in the village improvements.

At the centennial celebration of the birth of the First Methodist Episcopal Church in Somerset, in April, 1902, the historian of the ceremonies said:



BRIG "MARY," WM. READ, MASTER

On her passage from Somerset to Dublin, Jan. 7, 1796, by the stroke of a sea, met with this disaster off Georges Banks. (From original pen sketch by one of the sailors.)

"The land upon which the chapel was erected was generously given by Captain William Read, who, during his long and useful life, was a warm friend and generous supporter of the church and whose children and grand children, being his crown, have emulated in their many gifts, his worthy example."

The following notice of his death is from a Fall River paper:

"In Somerset, Mass., on the 14th inst., Capt. Wm. Read, aged about 92 years." (Mar. 14, 1853.)

"Capt. Read was born in Newport, R. I., before the birth of our glorious Republic and was early engaged in the warfare of life, in times of trial. At the age of 14, his parents moved to Somerset, soon after which he commenced a sea faring life, which was his occupation for more than twenty years. At about 17 years of age he was in the army under Gen. Sullivan during his expedition upon Rhode Island; after which he again embarked upon the ocean, was taken prisoner, carried to Jamaica, where he remained about nine months, suffering greatly from the inhumanity of his captors. At the close of the war he was released. His occupation and industrious habits formed for him a strong constitution, which supported him to a green old age."

The military service referred to above, was as a private in Capt. Peleg Peck's Co. Col. Thos. Carpenter's (Bristol Co.) regiment. Entered service July 27, 1778; discharged Sept. 10, 1778, at R. I. Company marched to Tiverton on alarm.

6. JOHN READ, JUNIOR

Son of John and Mary (Corey) Read, born at Newport, May 25, 1765; married, Dec. 28, 1797, Elizabeth Dennis, daughter of Captain Dennis of Newport. He died Nov. 12, 1818, at Providence, R. I.

Their children, born at Newport:

MARY JONES, b. Oct. 15, 1798; m. Dr. Simmons.

FRANCES THURSTON, b. Apr. 25, 1804.

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6. NATHAN READ

Son of John and Mary (Corey) Read, born at Newport, Jan. 24, 1774; married, Oct. 6, 1803, Phoebe Chase, of Somerset, the sister of Ruth, the wife of his brother William. He went with his father to Somerset when the British occupied Newport.

Children:

SARAH, b. Dec. 15, 1804; m. Joseph Earle, Apr. 19, 1833.

NATHAN, JR., b. Mar. 22, 1806; m., 1st, Rebecca Hathaway, Oct. 19, 1836; m., 2nd, Sarah M. Olney, July 19, 1847; d. Feb. 14, 1895.

MARY ANN, b. May 31, 1808.

JOHN, b. Feb. 8, 1810; d. July 28, 1895.

PHOEBE, b. Dec. 18, 1814; m. Richard Peckham of Newport, Dec. 4, 1836.

6. PRESERVED READ

Son (and only child) of Nathan and Content (Brayton) Read, born at Somerset, Dec. 18, 1777; married Nancy Winslow of Freetown, daughter of Dr. Ebenezer and Elizabeth (Eddy) Winslow, Aug. 7, 1806. He died in 1856, according to the following from the history of the First Methodist Church at Somerset:

"Captain Preserved Read was the successor of Mr. Edward Mason as Secretary of the Quarterly Conference and Steward. He was a good neighbor, Christian

gentleman, honored by all. He continued in office as Secretary twenty-eight years, until his demise in 1856."

Their children, born at Swansea:

CATHERINE, b. June 12, 1807.

NATHAN, b. Sept. 8, 1809.

FRANCIS, b. July 5, 1812; m. Frances Sanderson.

EVELINE, b. Feb. 18, 1815; m. William Mitchell.

ELIZABETH, b. Feb. 17, 1817; m. George W. Carr.

EBENEZER, b. Feb. 1, 1821.

MARIA, b. Nov. 16, 1823.

CHARLES G., b. May 27, 1829.

Preserved followed the sea in early life and was known throughout the village as Captain.

6. ISAAC READ

Son of Oliver and Patience (Brayton) Read, born at Freetown, Dec. 26, 1754; married Diadama Shearman (alias Gray), Sept. 25, 1781.

Children:

DAVID, b. Sept. 16, 1782.

ABAGAIL, b. Nov. 30, 1784.

ISAAC, b. Jan. 7, 1787.

SUSANNAH, b. Feb. 14, 1789.

JAMES, b. Apr. 12, 1791.

ELIJAH, b. Oct. 5, 1793.

PATIENCE, b. Apr. 4, 1795.

6. JOSEPH READ, JUNIOR

Son of Joseph (?); married Betsey W. Hathaway, Jan. 12, 1809. He was born about 1780, and she, Jan. 19, 1786, and was widow of a Winslow. He died Apr. 9, 1855, and she, Jan. 13, 1869.

Children:

RUTH, b. Mar. 24, 1809.

ABRAHAM, b. Feb. 11, 1812; m. Olive D. Bliffins, Dec. 10, 1842. He died Jan. 24, 1880.

JOSEPH, b. Sept. 13, 1815; m., 1st, Esther B. Collins, Nov. 23, 1849, and 2nd, Mary J. Landry.

ISAAC WINSLOW, b. Apr. 10, 1816; m. Josephine Dyer, July 16, 1845 (she b. Jan. 8, 1816; d. Aug. 19, 1904). He d. July 4, 1895.

6. WILLIAM READ, JUNIOR

Son of William and Ruth (Evans) Read, born at Freetown, July 5, 1769; married Prudence Valentine, also of Freetown (she born May 8, 1777), and died Nov. 8, 1852. She died Nov. 15, 1843.

Their children:

EDMOND, b. May 28, 1798; d. Jan. 22, 1866; unmarried.

RUTH, b. Oct. 19, 1799.

REBECCA, b. May 2, 1802; m. Geo. Borden of Troy, Feb. 4, 1830. She d. May 14, 1866.

WILLIAM V., b. Feb. 15, 1804; m. Susanna Ruggles, Apr. 10, 1845. He d. June 15, 1884. She d. Feb. 5, 1899.

SAMUEL, b. Feb. 17, 1806; d. Aug. 27, 1809.

GEORGE W., b. June 21, 1808; m. Eveline Borden, Dec. 25, 1841. She d. and he m., 2nd, Elizabeth A. Barney, daughter of Francis and Ann (Bennett) Barney of Newport, Dec. 25, 1867. He died Oct. 18, 1887. She d. Aug. 3, 1899.

ELIZABETH, b. Aug. 19, 1810; d. Feb. 6, 1817.

SAMUEL, b. July 15, 1812; d. Dec. 29, 1832.

HARRIET, b. Sept. 24, 1814; d. July 24, 1874.

ELIZABETH, b. Jan. 1, 1817; m. Jno. L. Canedy, Nov. 12, 1837; d. May 1, 1855.

JOHN B., b. Apr. 21, 1819; m., 1st, Sarah Robinson, daughter of David and Elizabeth Robinson, Jan. 17, 1852; m., 2nd, Mary E. Young, daughter of Benjamin Young, Nov. 28, 1872. She d. 1906.

JOSEPH P., b. June 7, 1821; d. at Plumas, Cal., Apr. 18, 1850.

6. GEORGE READ, SECOND

Son of John and Ruth (Lawton) Read, born at Freetown (date of birth not found); married Ruth Hathaway, also of Freetown, Jan. 31, 1797.

Children, born at Fall River:

GEORGE 3d, b. Oct. 10, 1792; m., June 23, 1814, Anna, daughter of Oliver and Patience (Brayton) Read.

FIRMAN, b. Apr. 7, 1796; m. Elizabeth Reynolds, Oct. 24, 1824. He d. Dec., 1840.

LAWTON, b. Dec. 17, 1798; m. Betsey Hathaway of Troy, June 8, 1826. He d. at Steep Brook, Feb. 12, 1880.

BETSEY, b. Oct. 20, 1800; m. Asa, son of Nathan and Mahala Read of New Boston; Asa d. Apr. 9, 1873. They m. Aug. 13, 1826.

SUSANNAH, b. Oct. 20, 1800; m. Warner Cook of Troy, Oct. 9, 1823.

ALMIRA, b. Apr. 29, 1803; m. Thomas D. Chandler.

WASHINGTON, b. Mar. 19, 1805; m. Ruth Bennett, July 29, 1830.

SALLY, b. Mar. 17, 1807; m. Gilbert Davis, Sept. 4, 1828.

EMERY G., b. Aug. 17, 1809; m. Lydia Holden, Oct. 1, 1840.

6. DANIEL READ

Son of John and Ruth (Lawton) Read, born at Freetown, Sept. 24, 1768; married Sarah, daughter of James and Hannah (Read)

Whitweell, Jan. 3, 1791. He died July 8, 1805, and she, May, 1842.

Children, born at Freetown:

DANIEL, JR., b. Apr. 20, 1794; m. Mary M. Winslow, June 28, 1818. He died Feb. 20, 1824.

STEPHEN, b. Apr. 20, 1794 (twin); d. Sept. 8, 1796.

GEORGE W., b. July 2, 1796; m. Anna Bennett, July 8, 1824. She d. Apr. 15, 1834, and he m., 2nd, Nancy Chase, June 15, 1837. He d. Oct. 2, 1873.

JOHN, b. May 10, 1798, at Fall River.

BRADFORD, b. Dec. 10, 1799; d. June 6, 1822.

NANCY, b. Dec. 2, 1801; m. Joseph Bennett, July 23, 1826.

JAMES, b. Aug. 25, 1803; d. at sea, about 1825.

OLIVER, b. Apr. 12, 1805; d. Aug. 29, 1825.

6. BRAYTON READ

Son of Oliver and Hannah (Collins) Read, born at Troy (now Fall River) about Jan., 1779; married Elizabeth Shettleston, Nov. 20, 1799. She died May 10, 1812, and he married, 2nd, Mary Davis, Sept. 16, 1812.

Children, by first marriage:

ANNA, b. Mar. 14, 1800; m. Araba Sampson, Nov. 22, 1818.

JOB, b. Oct. 3, 1802; m., 1st, Sally Lawton, 1824, and 2nd, Charlotte Sherman, May 20, 1855. He d. Dec. 20, 1877.

RUTH, b. Aug. 12, 1805.

BRAYTON, JR., b. Aug. 12, 1805 (twin); m. Sally Negus, May 24, 1822.

SIMEON, b. May 15, 1806; m. Sally S. Pratt, Apr. 15, 1827.

BRADFORD, b. May 20, 1810.

ELIZABETH, b. Jan. 5, 1812.

6. MAHALA READ

Daughter of Oliver and Hannah (Collins) Read, born at Troy; married Nathan Read of New Boston, Apr. 3, 1794.

Children:

RUBY, b. June 10, 1794; m. Bradford Bennett, Feb. 28, 1820.

ASA, b. June 7, 1796; m. Betsey, daughter of George Read, 2nd, Aug. 13, 1826; d. Apr. 9, 1873.

RUTH, b. July 20, 1798; d. Oct. 5, 1810.

JAMES, b. June 7, 1800.

MARTHA, b. Feb. 12, 1803.

WARREN, b. Apr. 7, 1805; m. Anne Lawton, Sept. 15, 1828.

PATIENCE, b. Feb. 1, 1807; m. Robert Bennett, June 22, 1834.

RHODA, b. Sept. 16, 1809; m. Job Chase of Dartmouth, May 2, 1830.

RUTH, b. May 8, 1814; m. Lucius Bigelow; d. Apr. 18, 1892.

6. GIDEON READ

Son of Oliver and Hannah (Collins) Read, born at Troy Mar. 2, 1770; married, 1st, Peggy (Margaret) Hilton, Apr. 16, 1789. He married, 2nd, Mary Little, Dec. 9, 1816. He died Apr. 10, 1832.

Children by first marriage:

DANIEL, 2ND, b. Feb. 20, 1787; d. Feb. 15, 1788.

PATIENCE, b. July 19, 1789; d. Oct. 1, 1790.

HENRY, b. Jan. 17, 1794.

BETTY, b. Sept. 14, 1795.

HANNAH, b. May 29, 1798; m. Earl Borden, June 13, 1824.

CATHERINE, b. June 7, 1800.

GRACE, b. July 9, 1802.

JOHN, b. July 10, 1804; d. Sept. 1, 1807.

HILTON, b. May 4, 1806; m. Susan Davis, Sept. 17, 1827; d. Jan., 1834.

6. MARTIN READ

Son of John and Ruth (Lawton) Read, born at Freetown; married Abigail Hathaway, sister to Ruth, the wife of his brother George, Mar. 13, 1804.

They had but one child, Frederick, who was born May 1, 1804, and married Phoebe Corey, Feb. 15, 1830.

6. BAILEY READ

Son of Benjamin and Sarah (Evans) Read, born at Freetown, Mar. 29, 1759; married Elizabeth Valentine, also of Freetown (she born Feb. 3, 1765); intention of marriage published Jan. 29, 1785.

Children:

SALLY.

APOLLOS, m. Abigail Haskins of Middleboro, May 25, 1811.

ELIZABETH, b. May 31, 1789; m. David Robinson of Somerset, Jan. 14, 1810. She d. Aug. 25, 1851.

POLLY.

LYDIA, m. Gilbert Haskins of Taunton.

BENJAMIN.

PARDON.

MERCY, m. Barney White of Middleboro.

JOHN.

GEORGE.

PHOEBE, m. a Mr. Bartlett.

The following from Mass. Soldiers and Sailors in the Revolution testifies to the patriotic services of Bailey Read:

"Read, Bailey; men raised in Bristol Co. for 9 months from arrival at Fishkill June 18, 1778."

His name appears also on the pay roll of the six months' men raised by Freetown for service in the Continental army during 1780.

"Marched Sept. 18, 1780; discharged Mar. 24, 1781."

6. SAMUEL READ

Son of Joseph and Mary (Cornell) Read, born at Freetown, Aug. 4, 1757; married Charity Bourne of Somerset, in 1788. They moved to Colchester, Conn., and he died there Dec. 29, 1832.

Early in the Revolutionary War he entered the army and was one of Gen. Washington's body guard.

At the Battle of Freetown he served under Col. Joseph Durfee and as a posted sentinel gave the alarm that revealed the approach of the British forces coming up the bay in boats from Newport. They were driven off.

Children:

MARY, b. Sept. 12, 1779; m. Samuel Bragg; d. Feb. 15, 1848.

SAMUEL, JR., b. Nov. 25, 1780; m. Eudocia Taintor, Apr. 29, 1818. He d. Dec. 4, 1852.

ELIZABETH, b. Jan. 15, 1782; m. Edward Smith.

ANNA, b. Nov. 3, 1783; d., unmarried, Sept. 8, 1866.

CHARITY E., b. Mar. 7, 1785; m. Nathan Swift, Nov. 8, 1810; d. Feb. 14, 1827, at Lebanon, Conn.

JARED, b. Feb. 29, 1788; m., 1st, Sallie Bigelow, and 2nd, Nancy Seabury. He d. June 16, 1854.

SARAH, b. Mar. 7, 1790; m. Dudley Worthington, Oct. 12, 1814.

PHOEBE, b. Dec. 20, 1791; m. William Shaw, Oct. 20, 1829; d. Dec. 19, 1889.

DARIUS.

6. GEORGE G. READ, THIRD

Son of Joseph and Mary (Cornell) Read, born Dec. 14, 1760; married Isabel Evans of Freetown, Oct. 20, 1788, and died Dec. 6, 1801.

He was educated in the public schools of Freetown and early in life became interested in the vessels being built at the Assonet shipyards. He was called Captain.

Children:

BAILEY EVANS, b. Feb. 10, 1790; d. Mar. 4, 1807, unmarried.

GEORGE, b. Sept. 27, 1791; d. Jan. 13, 1880.

JOSEPH, b. Sept. 28, 1792; m., 1st, Betsey Deane, in 1821. She d. Feb. 18, 1853. He m., 2nd, Rebecca (Evans) Brown, Apr. 24, 1856. She d. Feb. 12, 1867. He m., 3rd, Mrs. Mary (Lee) Healy, July 21, 1869. He d. Jan. 13, 1880.

ERASTUS B., b. June 13, 1798; m. Betsey Hathaway, May 15, 1834. She d. Mar. 14, 1879. He d. Apr. 23, 1868.

6. JAMES READ

Son of Joseph and Mary (Cornell) Read, born in 1768; married Rebecca Barton, Oct. 7, 1796. He died Oct. 21, 1814, and she died in 1833.

James was a tanner, like his father, and it was to him that Enoch French was bound as an apprentice. When James felt called to the ministry, he sold his business to his young brother-in-law, who had married his sister Sarah. It is recorded in the "French Ancestry" that the Rev. James Read was an exceptionally gifted spiritual leader and a faithful follower in Christ's pathway.

Children:

ANDREW BARTON, b. 1799; m. Betsey Sanders, who d. 1877.

JAMES, JR., b. Aug. 20, 1801; m., 1st, Mary Ann Taylor. She d. Feb. 26, 1836., and he m., 2nd, Rebecca C. Sessions, July, 1841. She d. Mar. 27, 1843, and he m., 3rd, Hannah C. Eddy, July 22, 1845. He died June 5, 1893, and she, Apr. 10, 1897.

SAMUEL, b. Nov. 1, 1803; d. 1831.

6. JOSEPH READ

Son of Joseph and Mary (Cornell) Read, born Mar. 9, 1763; died in a hospital. I find no marriage record.

6. JOSEPH EVANS READ

Son of William and Ruth (Evans) Read, born at Freetown, Sept. 15, 1776; married Sybil Valentine, Jan. 17, 1803. He died July 6, 1857, and his wife died July 5, the day before. They both occupy the same grave.

He was a private in the first company of the Freetown militia in the war of 1812, and also served as an Assessor in 1808.

Children:

SARAH ANN, b. Apr. 17, 1804; m. Abraham Bowen, Feb. 15, 1827; d. July 3, 1891.

JOSEPH E., JR., b. Jan. 23, 1806; m. Catherine Norris; d. Jan. 7, 1885.

PADDOCK RICHMOND, b. Nov. 16, 1807, at Fall River; m. Belinda Morey, Mar. 24, 1848; d. at Taunton July 17, 1877.

RACHEL, b. Dec. 5, 1809; m. Chas. B. Weaver, Dec. 11, 1830; d. Apr. 21, 1876.

HENRY, b. May 3, 1812; d. May 22, 1840, unmarried.

WILLIAM SULLIVAN, b. Oct. 28, 1814; d. Dec. 19, 1864, unmarried.

JAMES MUNROE, b. Apr. 24, 1817; m. Catherine Garners of N. Y., and d. Nov. 3, 1863.

FRANCIS BAYLIES, b. July 14, 1819; m. Angelina Grinnell, Dec. 4, 1833. Removed to Illinois and d. Sept. 5, 1891.

CAROLINE VALENTINE, b. Mar. 20, 1825; m. Milton A. Clyde of Springfield, Mass., June 30, 1848; d. Dec. 27, 1896.

6. JONATHAN READ, JUNIOR

Son of Jonathan and Eunice (Weaver) Read, born at Freetown, Sept. 7, 1771; married Eleanor Law of Somerset, Mar. 31, 1792. She was the sister of Elizabeth, the wife of Ichabod Read.

Children:

BETSEY, b. Oct. 20, 1792; m. July 30, 1812, Ebenezer Spooner Winslow (his 2nd wife); m., 2nd, William Barker, and 3rd, a Mr. Lobdell.

BENJAMIN W., b. Jan. 9th, 1796; m. Cynthia Pierce of Fall River. He d. July 18, 1872.

ICHABOD, b. Apr. 18, 1798.

RUTH, b. July 10, 1800.

JAMES, b. Feb. 25, 1803.

CLARISSA, b. Jan. 11, 1805; m. a Cornell.

6. ICHABOD READ

Son of Jonathan and Eunice (Weaver) Read, born at Freetown, Apr. 20, 1760; married Elizabeth Law of Somerset, Oct. 8, 1780, and died at Freetown, Dec. 6, 1796. Buried at Steep Brook village, Fall River.

He served as Corporal in Capt. Philip Hathaway's Co. Col. Joseph Whitney's Reg't, and Sergeant in Capt. Henry Brightman's Co. during the Revolution.

His intention of marriage to Elizabeth was recorded at Freetown, May 30, 1780, but record of their children is absent.

6. JAMES P. READ

Son of Benjamin and Sarah (Evans) Read, born at Freetown, Mar. 9, 1785; married Charity Kennedy of Taunton, Jan. 3, 1808.

Children:

JAMES, b. 1809; d. young.

JAMES, b. Aug. 11, 1811; died young.

CHARITY, d. Apr. 20, 1812.

7. RACHEL READ

Daughter of Joseph E. and Sibyl (Valentine) Read, born at Freetown, Dec. 5, 1809; married Charles B. Weaver, Dec. 11, 1830.

Children:

LYDIA C., b. May 17, 1837, at Fall River; d. Sept. 10, 1860.

HENRY, b. May 10, 1840; m. Sarah P. Borden, Jan. 10, 1864.

JOHN W., b. and d. May 10, 1840.

CHARLES S., b. Aug. 5, 1842.
FRANK BAYLISS, b. Apr. 30, 1845; d. Sept. 12, 1847.
FRANCIS MILTON, b. May 3, 1847.
LOUISE V., b. July 21, 1849; d. Aug. 10, 1851.
GEORGE K., b. Apr. 20; d. May 27, 1853.

7. CAROLINE V. READ

Daughter of Joseph E. and Sibyl (Valentine) Read, born at Fall River, Mar. 20, 1825; married Milton A. Clyde of Springfield, Mass., June 30, 1848; died there Dec. 27, 1896. Mr. Clyde died Jan. 24, 1875.

Children:

EVELYN L., b. July 29, 1852; m. Jas. D. Gill; d. Aug. 26, 1923.

CAROLINE M., b. Sept. 8, 1854; d. Aug. 18, 1871, at Springfield, Mass.

HARRIET F., b. Aug. 29, 1857; m., Dec. 15, 1880, Chas. L. Long, now (1924) Judge of Probate, Hampden County, Springfield, Mass.

7. JOSEPH E. READ, JUNIOR

Son of Joseph E. and Sibyl (Valentine) Read, born at Fall River, Jan. 25, 1806; married Catherine Norris of New Jersey. His wife died Oct. 8, 1856. He died Jan. 7, 1885.

Children:

SIBYL V., b. Sept. 13, 1848.
WILLET S., b. Oct. 15, 1852.

7. PADDOCK RICHMOND READ

Son of Joseph E. and Sibyl (Valentine) Read, born at Fall River, Nov. 16, 1807; married Belinda Morey and died at Taunton, Mass., July 17, 1877.

Children:

EMILY P., b. May 23, 1844, at Taunton.
HARRIET M., b. Oct. 2, 1845.
FRANCIS RICHMOND, b. Dec. 7, 1847.

7. JAMES M. READ

Son of Joseph E. and Sibyl (Valentine) Read, born at Freetown, Apr. 24, 1817; married Catherine Garners of New York City; was a broker there until his death, Nov. 3, 1863.

Children:

EVELINE.
ELLA.
GERTRUDE.
OSCAR.

7. FRANCIS B. READ

Son of Joseph E. and Sibyl (Valentine) Read, born at Freetown, July 14, 1819; married Angelina Grinnell and moved to Collins Station, Clinton Co., Ill. (date of marriage, Dec. 12, 1850); died at Ellensburgh, Wash, Sept. 5, 1891.

Children:

ELLA V., b. Jan. 17, 1852; m. Jacob Bowers, Nov. 5, 1874.

WALTER G., b. Feb. 25, 1854.

ELIZA, b. Dec. 19, 1855.

HENRY, b. Sept. 20, 1859.

JOSEPH F., b. Sept. 11, 1861.

CAROLINE C., b. Jan. 19, 1864.

DELIA MARIA, b. Nov. 28, 1868.

HARRIET A., b. June 11, 1871; d. Apr. 5, 1875.

7. SAMUEL READ, JUNIOR

Son of Samuel and Charity (Bourne) Read, born Nov. 25, 1780; married Eudocia Taintor, Apr. 29, 1818. She was born in 1785 and died Sept. 9, 1849. He died Sept. 4, 1852.

Children:

SAMUEL, b. Feb. 10, 1819; m. Elesta Messenger, Dec. 21, 1840. She was b. in 1821; d. June, 1842. He m., 2nd, Louisa Austin, Dec. 28, 1842. She b. April, 1815; d. April, 1883. He d. June, 1870.

DARIUS, b. Mar. 8, 1820; d. at sea.

HOPE ANN, b. Sept. 12, 1821; m. Harry Pomeroy, Oct. 12, 1842.

GEORGE L., b. Dec., 1823; m. Mary Jane Holmes, Feb., 1850. He d. Dec., 1861.

MARY, b. Aug. 24, 1825; m. Samuel White, May 20, 1847. She d. Sept. 20, 1849.

CAROLINE FRANCES, b. Oct. 22, 1827; m. Alfred Spencer, Apr. 26, 1846.

7. ELIZABETH READ

Daughter of Samuel and Charity (Bourne) Read, born Jan. 15, 1782, married Edward Smith. She died 1876-7.

Children:

CHARITY, m. William Wadsworth.

ELIZA A., m. Orin Packard.

7. JARED READ

Son of Samuel and Charity (Bourne) Read, born Feb. 29, 1788; married, 1st, Sallie Bigelow, and, 2nd, Nancy Seabury, in 1845. He died June 16, 1854.

One son by first wife, Jared, born in 1824; married Louise A. Dwight, Apr. 19, 1854. She died in 1883.

7. SARAH READ

Daughter of Samuel and Charity (Bourne) Read, born Mar. 7, 1790; married Dudley Worthington, Oct. 12, 1814.

One child:

Sarah, b. June 25, 1816; m. Simon Huntington.

7. DARIUS READ

Son of Samuel and Charity (Bourne) Read.

7. ERASTUS B. READ

Son of George G. and Isabel (Evans) Read, born June 13, 1798; married Betsey Hathaway, May 15, 1834. He died Apr. 23, 1868, and she died March 14, 1879.

Children:

Isabel, b. July 17, 1841; d. Mar. 11, 1879.

Elizabeth, b. Jan. 17, 1844; d. Oct. 9, 1844.

Elizabeth, b. Oct. 9, 1846; d. Feb. 26, 1847.

George, b. Oct. 4, 1848; d. Sept. 30, 1849.

Mary, b. June 15, 1850; m. Charles F. Peirce, Aug. 22, 1878. He d. Nov. 30, 1878.

Myra, b. Mar. 19, 1853; d. Oct. 4, 1853.

7. ANDREW BARTON READ

Son of James and Rebecca (Barton) Read, born in 1799; married Betsey Sanders. She died in 1877.

Children:

Rev. Andrew.

Margaret B.

Henry.

7. JAMES READ, JUNIOR

Son of James and Rebecca (Barton) Read, born Aug. 20, 1801; married, 1st, Mary Ann Taylor. She died Feb. 26, 1836. He married, 2nd, Rebecca C. Sessions, July, 1841. She died Mar. 27, 1843, and he married, 3rd, Hannah C. Eddy. She died Apr. 10, 1897. He died June 5, 1893.

Children:

Anna, b. Dec. 25, 1827; m. James Snow, Jr., Nov. 2, 1848.

Cyrus B., b. Oct. 6, 1829; m. H. M. Bixby.

Rebecca B., b. and d. Mar. 19, 1832.

Sophia, b. Nov. 13, 1834; m. A. N. Dean. She d. May 9, 1872.

Rebecca, b. Jan., 1843; d. Oct. 2, 1843.

7. WILLIAM V. READ

Son of William and Prudence (Valentine) Read, born Feb. 10, 1804; married Susannah Ruggles, April 10, 1845.

Children:

WILLIAM V., b. Dec. 29, 1845; d. early.

WILLIAM V., b. June 8, 1853.

HENRY R., b. Mar. 10, 1857.

A son, Feb. 4, 1859.

7. GEORGE W. READ

Son of William and Prudence (Valentine) Read, born June 21, 1808; married Eveline Borden, Dec. 25, 1841. He married, 2nd, Lizzie A. Barney. They settled at Fall River, Mass. He died Oct. 18, 1887.

Children:

EDMOND V., b. Dec., 1842; m. Harriet A. Peckham.

SUSAN R., b. Mar., 1844.

GEORGE F., b. Oct. 27, 1845.

7. NATHAN READ, JR.

Son of Nathan and (Phoebe) Chase Read, born at Swansea, Mar. 22, 1806; married, 1st, Rebecca B. Hathaway, and 2nd, Sarah M. Olney, July 19, 1847. He died Feb. 14, 1895.

Children:

LYDIA H., b. June 22, 1838, at Fall River, daughter of Rebecca, unmarried.

REBECCA JUDSON, b. Oct. 31, 1849; m. Charles B. Cook, May 7, 1873. She was the daughter by Sarah.

7. JOHN READ

Son of Nathan and (Phoebe) Chase Read, born at Swansea, Feb. 8, 1810; married Rowena H. Pierce, May 10, 1836. He died July 28, 1895, and she, Aug. 1, 1889.

Children:

THEODORE E., b. May 13, 1839, at Fall River; m. Clara F. Fogg about 1867.

ELLEN SCOTT, b. Sept. 28, 1843; d. Apr. 11, 1847.

CHARLES A., b. June 17, 1846.

7. RUTH ANN READ

Daughter of William and Ruth (Chase) Read, born at Somerset, Mass., Mar. 8, 1807; married Oliver Hazard Bush of Fall River, May 6, 1830. She died Jan. 21, 1904.

Children:

WILLIAM R., b. Mar. 22, 1832, at Fall River; m. Abby Maria Nelson of Middleboro, at Rowley, Mass., Nov. 15, 1855. She d. Nov. 30, 1893. He lives in Baltimore.

CAROLINE A., b. at Fall River, June 22, 1834; d. Jan. 12, 1917, single.

GEORGE H., b. at Somerset, Sept. 22, 1836; d. Oct. 23, 1899.

OLIVER P., b. Nov. 8, 1838; d. May 2, 1896.

FREDERICK A., b. Feb. 2, 1849; d. May 28, 1850.

MARY E., b. Mar. 15, 1853; m. John R. Cary of Baltimore, at Somerset, June 8, 1881. Is living in Baltimore.

7. WILLIAM READ, JUNIOR

Son of William and Ruth (Chase) Read, born at Somerset, Oct. 18, 1808; married Eliza Thatcher Bartlett of Plymouth, Apr. 22, 1834. He died at Philadelphia, Pa., Jan. 7, 1876. His wife was born at Plymouth, July 5, 1808, and died at Philadelphia July 28, 1872.

Children:

WILLIAM F., b. Feb. 7, 1836, at Taunton, Mass.; d. Nov. 23, 1842, at Philadelphia.

RUFUS S., b. Mar. 6, 1840; m. Hannah Benckert of Philadelphia, Sept. 24, 1872; d. at Beverly, N. J., Jan. 5, 1907.

GEORGE H., b. Feb. 8, 1843; d. at Great Barrington, Mass., Mar. 28, 1924.

MARY B., b. Jan. 29, 1846, at New York City; d. at Philadelphia, Apr. 7, 1923, unmarried.

7. EBEN SAGE READ

Son of William and Ruth (Chase) Read, born at Somerset, Oct. 16, 1810; married Sarah Cutts of Fall River and settled in Providence.

Children:

SARAH E., b. 1836, at Fall River.

CHARLES M., b. 1841, at Somerset.

7. MARY CORY READ

Daughter of William and Ruth (Chase) Read, born at Somerset, Sept. 3, 1812; married John Brayton of Fall River. She died Mar. 12, 1895.

Child:

THOMAS E. BRAYTON, b. May 15, 1844; m. Mattie E. Ireson. Their children are Alice Brayton, b. Feb. 28, 1878; May Brayton, who m. Edw. I. Marvell of Fall River, Helen Brayton and Edward Brayton, b. Sept. 13, 1888.

7. EPAPHRAS J. READ

Son of William and Ruth (Chase) Read, born at Somerset, Dec. 31, 1814; married, 1st, Anna G. Luther of Swansea, who died Feb. 2, 1852; married, 2nd, Deborah D. Wilson, who died Aug. 20, 1868; married, 3rd, Rachael Louisa Holmes, who died Feb. 15, 1916. Epaphras died Apr. 22, 1901, at Fall River.

Children by 1st marriage:

WILLIAM A., b. Dec. 21, 1843; m. Mary A. Parry of Lakeville.

HERBERT V., b. Oct. 24, 1846; d. June 7, 1881; m. Emma F. Albert.

CHARLES E., b. Aug. 19, 1851; d. Dec. 24, 1854.

LYDIA L., b. Apr. 7, 1849; d. Nov. 27, 1851.

Children by 2nd marriage:

ANNIE E., b. Oct. 11, 1857; d. Nov. 19, 1861.

CHARLES C., b. Aug. 26, 1860; d. Sept. 18, 1861.

CLARENCE C., b. Nov. 29, 1862; d. Oct. 9, 1864.

FREDERICK M., b. 1865; d. May 14, 1890.

By 3rd marriage, one son:

GEORGE HOLMES, b. Feb. 14, 1877; m., May 23, 1901, Annie L. Gammons of Arnold's Mills, R. I.

7. GEORGE READ

Son of William and Ruth (Chase) Read, born at Somerset, Nov. 25, 1816; married, 1st, Emeline Howell, and 2nd, Jane G. Winslow, Jan. 27, 1856.

Children by first marriage:

ALBERT M., b. Oct. 30, 1846, at New York; m. Freelove Lilly, 1st, and Margaret Booth Watson, 2nd.

HENRY HOWELL, b. Feb. 3, 1849, at Philadelphia; m., 1st, Amelia Macowan, Mar. 28, 1877, and 2nd, Flora Sayers.

GEORGE E., b. Dec. 23, 1850, at Somerset, Mass.; m. Amelia E. Slade, Dec. 24, 1881.

On Sunday, Mar. 2, 1902, when the Centennial Anniversary of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Swansea was celebrated, the Hon. John S. Brayton made the following remarks:

"Mr. George Read, another member of the Board of Trustees, and who was its Secretary, the honored son of his eminent sire, Captain William Read, has gone to his reward, remembering the church of his love by leaving to it a bequest, and Mrs. Jane G. Read, his wife, whose whole life was filled with generous deeds, was separated from her husband only a few months, when she was called to meet him above. Miss Sarah Read, his sister, who during her long and useful life had been identified with this church, and who remembered it by devise, soon followed her brother, having been preceded by her two nephews, George H. and Oliver H. Bush, men who cherished with filial affection the church of their fathers and have left behind them a good name, which is more to be desired than great riches."

7. WASHINGTON READ

Son of John and Rosamond (Hathaway) Read, born at Freetown,

July 2, 1813; married Caroline, the daughter of Allen and Sarah Chase. Date of marriage not found.

But one child is recorded:

ALLEN, b. May 28, 1839; m. Isidore Carpenter, at Providence, R. I., in 1860.

The following is from the History of Freetown:

"Captain Washington Read followed the sea fifty-two years, commencing as a cabin boy for his father when nine years of age. At the age of thirteen he commanded a sloop which plied between Fall River, Providence, and Newport, and in all sailed as master of sixteen different vessels. In the ship Caroline, he circumnavigated the globe, the voyage occupying seventeen months. He crossed the Atlantic about seventy times, his wife accompanying him thirty-eight times. He rescued many survivors from wrecks, taking fifty-two from one wreck in mid-ocean, encountering great peril in so doing. For this he received high commendation from the Lord Mayor of London."

Captain Washington served as a Representative to the General Court in 1875.

7. FRANCIS READ

Son of Preserved and Nancy (Winslow) Read, born at Swansea, July 5, 1812; married Frances Sanderson.

Two children born to them, at San Francisco; Cata, in 1852, and Charles, in 1855. Settled at San Francisco.

7. WILLIAM READ

Son of John and Rosamond (Hathaway) Read, born at Freetown, Mar. 13, 1809; married Eliza Staples of Freetown, Apr. 28, 1838. He died July 8, 1870, being drowned by the swamping of a boat in Assonet Bay. His wife died Feb. 27, 1897.

Captain William commenced going to sea early in life and became a master mariner before he was thirty years old.

On Nov. 24, 1864, he was appointed Acting Ensign and Pilot in the Navy and attached to the Monitor Passaic of the South Atlantic Squadron, serving until the close of the Civil War and receiving an honorable discharge. After the war, he again engaged in mercantile business, either as master or owner of vessels built at the Assonet shipyards.

The following account of his tragic death is taken from the History of Freetown:

"On the night of July 8, 1870, the Sloop Zebra, Robert Porter, master and owner, was anchored near the mouth of Joshua's Channel. A high wind coming up, Captain Porter, Captain William Read and Robert Jenkins (colored), started to put out an extra anchor. They lashed it to the stern of a skiff boat. As soon as they pushed off from the vessel, the boat was swamped and carried to the bottom by the anchor. Captain Porter, as he drifted by the vessel, caught hold of the bobstay and hauled himself on board. In the darkness, he could not see his companions, but he heard Captain Read say, as the current swept him past the vessel, 'throw me a line.' Captain Read and Robert Jenkins were drowned. Their bodies were recovered:

William and Eliza had children as follows:

ROSAMOND A., b. Jan. 13, 1839.

WILLIAM H. H., b. May 12, 1841.
EDWARD E., b. Feb. 7, 1843; killed in battle, during Civil War.
ELLEN E., b. Feb. 7, 1843.
CHARLES H., b. Jan. 28, 1845.
HELEN M., b. Feb. 15, 1848.
IRVING W., b. Mar. 29, 1850.
ELLA J., b. Feb. 17, 1853.

7. BENJAMIN W. READ

Son of Jonathan, Jr., and Eleanor Read, of Somerset, born Jan. 9, 1796; married Cynthia Pierce of Fall River, Oct. 22, 1820. He died July 18, 1872. She died Apr. 24, 1882.

Children:

MARY P., b. Apr. 21, 1823; d. Dec. 10, 1895; unmarried.

RICHMOND, b. Jan. 21, 1825; m. Martha J. Griffiths, of Halifax, N. S., Sept. 24, 1853, and d. Sept. 28, 1887.

ELLEN, b. Sept. 25, 1830.

7. FIRMAN READ

Son of George, 2nd, and Ruth (Hathaway) Read, born Apr. 7, 1796; married Elizabeth Reynolds, Oct. 24, 1824, and settled at the village of Steep Brook, Fall River. He died Dec., 1840. She died Feb. 1, 1844.

Children:

FIRMAN, JR., b. May 27, 1825; m. Susan B. Morey of Warwick, Nov. 3, 1850.

ELIZABETH, b. Feb. 16, 1827; m. Andrew Wade, Dec. 26, 1850.

JULIA A., b. July 31, 1829; m. Leonard Taylor of Little Compton.

SARAH B., b. July 28, 1831; died young.

EMILY C., b. Sept. 24, 1833; m. Robert G. Frazier, June 4, 1853.

JOHN C., b. Jan. 23, 1836; m. Lucy E. Cook; he d. Mar. 3, 1891.

SIDNEY H., b. 1838; d. Apr. 15, 1869; m. Cornelia Paquin (Bliss) of Tiverton, Jan. 17, 1866. He d. Apr. 15, 1869.

7. DANIEL READ, JUNIOR

Son of Daniel and Sarah (Whitwell) Read, born Apr. 20, 1794; married Mary M. Winslow, June 28, 1818, at Fall River. He died Feb. 29, 1824.

One child recorded:

MARY P., d. Jan. 11, 1905, unmarried.

7. GEORGE W. READ

Son of Daniel and Sarah (Whitwell) Read, born July 2, 1796; married, 1st, Anna Bennett, July 4, 1824. She died Apr. 15, 1833,

Capt. WILLIAM READ
Son of John and Rosamond Hathaway

and he married Nancy Chase, daughter of Jonathan and Ellen Chase of Somerset. He died Oct. 2, 1873, and she, July 18, 1872.

Children, by 1st marriage:

DANIEL, b. May 28, 1825; drowned at sea, June 17, 1843.

BRADFORD B., b. Mar. 8, 1828.

HARRIET N., b. Aug. 7, 1832; d. Apr. 15, 1833.

7. EMERY G. READ

Son of George, 2nd, and Ruth (Hathaway) Read, born Aug. 17, 1809; married, 1st, Diana Cook, Dec. 1, 1833, and, 2nd, Lydia Holden, Oct. 1, 1840.

Children by 1st marriage:

RUTH, b. Sept. 29, 1834.

DIANA, b. 1839; m. George M. Lewin, Feb. 6, 1857.

Children by 2nd marriage:

ELLA G., b. July 23, 1844; m. Joseph N. Chase, Mar 25, 1864.

A son, b. Aug. 25, 1848.

7. LAWTON READ

Son of George 2nd, and Ruth (Hathaway) Read, born Dec. 17, 1798; married at Steep Brook to Betsey Hathaway, June 8, 1826. He died Feb. 12, 1880.

Children, born at Fall River:

SALLY, b. Mar. 17, 1828.

LAWTON, JR., b. Mar. 19, 1831; m. Lydia W. Chase. They had a daughter, Ethel, b. May 18, 1881, and a son, Everett, who d. Dec. 19, 1881. He died Dec. 27, 1891.

LOUISA, b. Apr. 25, 1835.

7. WASHINGTON READ

Son of George, 2nd, and Ruth (Hathaway) Read, born Mar. 19, 1805; married Ruth Bennett, July 29, 1830.

Children:

EMERY, b. Aug. 1, 1832; m. Sarah Brightman Davis, Dec. 11, 1860.

HANNAH, b. Oct. 19, 1834; m., 1st, James H. Hawley, Oct. 17, 1854, and, 2nd, Luther Winslow, Jr., Jan. 5, 1865.

MARY, b. 1837; m. Alden Hathaway of Berkley, Apr. 16, 1855.

DANIEL, b. Sept. 10, 1845; d. Apr. 11, 1896.

7. GEORGE READ, THIRD

Son of George, 2nd, and Ruth (Hathaway) Read, born Oct. 10, 1792; married Anna Freelove, daughter of Oliver and Patience Brayton Read, of Troy, June 23, 1814.

Children:
LUCRETIA, b. Apr. 3, 1817.
BRADFORD, b. Jan. 7, 1821.
GEORGE, b. July 12, 1823.
STEPHEN, b. Oct. 19, 1825.

7. JOB READ

Son of Brayton and Elizabeth (Shettleston) Read), born at Freetown, Oct. 3, 1802; married Sally Lawton, in 1824. She born Apr. 19, 1804; died May, 1842. He married, 2nd, Charlotte Sherman, May 2, 1855. He died Dec. 20, 1877, and she, June 3, 1899.

Children by 1st marriage:
HOWLAND, b. July 3, 1825; d. Feb. 8, 1848.
LUCRETIA, b. Jan. 28, 1828; m. John Dickerson, Feb. 6, 1845.
ALBINA, b. Nov., 1830; m. Charles Church, June 30, 1851.
BENJAMIN, b. Feb. 8, 1831; d. Apr, 3, 1902.
FANNY, b. Mar. 28, 1834.
JOB, b. Mar. 28, 1834; d. May, 1835.
HANNAH, b. Nov. 2, 1835.
WILLIAM H., b. Aug., 1841; m. Harriet E. Cornell of Wareham, July 20, 1863. He died Aug. 8, 1875.

7. BRAYTON READ, JUNIOR

Son of Brayton and Elizabeth (Shettleston) Read, born Aug. 12, 1805; intention of marriage to Sally Negus published Mar. 24, 1822.

7. ASA READ

Son of Nathan Read of New Boston and Mahala (Read) Read of Troy, born June 7, 1796; married Betsey (?) of Troy, Aug. 13, 1826. He died Apr. 9, 1873.

One child recorded:
CHARLES, b. Dec. 26, 1827; who married Joanna Chase, May 8, 1853.

7. JAMES READ

Son of Nathan Read of New Boston and Mahala (Read) Read of Troy, born June 7, 1800; married Eliza Davis, Dec. 12, 1830. He died Feb. 6, 1869.

Children:
ELIZA, b. Mar. 19, 1834.
RICHARD, b. Oct. 10, 1831.

7. WARREN READ

Son of Nathan Read of New Boston and Mahala (Read) Read of Troy, born Apr. 7, 1805; married Anne Lawton, Sept. 15, 1828.

Children:
JOSEPH, b. Jan. 12, 1830.
MARY, b. Mar. 7, 1834.
ANGELINE, b. Feb. 10, 1835.

7. JOHN B. READ

Son of William and Prudence (Valentine) Read, born at Freetown, Apr. 21, 1819; married, 1st, Sarah Robinson, Jan. 17, 1852, died July 27, 1859, at 34, and 2nd, Mary E. Young, Nov. 28, 1872. She died Jan. 17, 1906. John B. died Aug. 7, 1900.

Children by 1st marriage:
MARY ELIZA YOUNG, b. Mar. 4, 1847.
JOSEPH P., b. June 7, 1859; m. Catherine H. Rogers. She d. June 12, 1897. Grave stones in Sybil Valentine's lot at Assonet.

Children by 2nd marriage:
JOHN M., b. Feb. 15, 1875.
PRUDENCE, b. Feb. 15, 1876.
HARRIET E., b. May, 1879.

7. MARTHA N. READ

Daughter of John and Rosamond (Hathaway) Read, born at Freetown, Jan. 26, 1815; married Phillips.

Children:
JOSEPH.
EDWIN, m. Betsey Thorp.
CHARLES.
BENJAMIN.
ALLEN.
LEWIS.
HENRIETTA.
GEORGIANNA, m. Frederick Thayer.
CAROLINE, m. Babbitt.

7. RUTH READ

Daughter of John and Rosamond (Hathaway) Read, born at Freetown, Apr. 20, 1800; married George Pickens of Freetown, date not found. He died Jan. 7, 1842, and she, Aug. 14, 1861.

Children:
GEORGE WASHINGTON, b. Mar. 17, 1820; m. at Assonet, July 31, 1845, Elizabeth C. Deane.
LUTHER, d. in 1871, unmarried.
JOSEPH HATHAWAY, d., unmarried.
ANN ELIZABETH, b. Dec. 11, 1829; m. Samuel Pridham in 1852, and d. in 1869.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, b. in 1835; m. at Assonet, Octavia E. Barrows and d. Mar. 26, 1866.

ROSAMOND, m., 1st, Eason, and, 2nd, Ambrose Deane.

7. SARAH ANN READ

Daughter of Joseph Evans Read and Sybil Valentine, born Apr. 17, 1804; married Abraham Bowen, Feb. 15, 1827, and died July 3, 1891, at Fall River, Mass.

Children:

ELLEN A., b. Feb. 13, 1830.

JOSEPH A., b. Nov. 4, 1832.

SARAH V., b. Dec. 8, 1839.

7. SIMEON READ

Son of Brayton and Elizabeth (Shettleston) Read, born May 15, 1806; married Sally S. Pratt, Apr. 15, 1827.

Child:

SPENCER P., b. July 30, 1828, at Olneyville.

7. JOSEPH READ

Son of Joseph, Jr., and Betsey (Hathaway Winslow); married Mary J. Landry, July 19, 1877.

One child recorded:

JOSEPH A., b. Apr. 9, 1878.

7. ISAAC WINSLOW READ

Son of Joseph, Jr., and Betsey (Hathaway Winslow) Read, born Apr. 10, 1816; married Josephine Dyer, July 16, 1845. He died July 4, 1895, and she, Aug. 19, 1804. She was the daughter of Stephen and Sally Dyer, of Portsmouth.

Children:

A son, b. Mar 27, 1848.

WALTER D., b. 1849; m. Lydia J. Wordell, Jan. 4, 1870.

A son, b. July 1, 1860.

8. FIRMAN READ, JUNIOR

Son of Firman and Elizabeth (Reynolds) Read, born at Freetown, May 27, 1825; married Susan B. Morey of Warwick, Nov. 3, 1850. He died Apr. 26, 1893.

Children, born at Fall River:

WALTER, b. Dec. 17, 1852.

CHARLES F., b. Aug. 16, 1859; m. Henrietta Babbitt, Jan. 3, 1881.

ALICE, b. Apr. 16, 1858.
SIDNEY V., b. Nov. 6, 1860; d. Sept. 24, 1892.
LUCY E., b. 1862; m. Thos. F. Winn, Mar. 15, 1881.

8. RUFUS S. READ

Son of William and Eliza (Bartlett) Read, born at Philadelphia, Pa., Mar. 6, 1840; married Hannah Benckert, Sept. 24, 1872, and died at Beverly, N. J., Jan. 5, 1907.

Children:
ELIZABETH THACHER, b. Feb. 16, 1874; d. Jan. 20, 1920.
MARY BENCKERT, b. June 18, 1876.
CAROLINE BUSH, b. Aug. 29, 1879; m. Philip Weigel.
LOUISE BARTLETT, b. Aug. 24, 1884.
WILLIAM RUFUS, b. May 3, 1888; m. Adelaide V. Taylor.
GEORGE, b. May 3, 1888 (twin),; d. in infancy.

Rufus enlisted in the army at the first call for volunteers in 1861, and after a brief training at Camp Curtin at Harrisburg, Pa., was sent to join the second regiment of the Pennsylvania Reserves, which was with Gen. McClellan on the Peninsular in front of Richmond. He was captured in the suburbs of Richmond, taken to the famous Libbey Prison, and from there to Andersonville, Ga., where he was kept nine months before being exchanged and released. When his first enlistment expired, he enlisted in the second regiment of the regular artillery, and was sent to California, where he served until final discharge, after the close of the war.

8. GEORGE HENRY READ

Son of William and Eliza (Bartlett) Read, born at Philadelphia, Feb. 8, 1843; died at Great Barrington, Mass., Mar. 28, 1924. He was unmarried.

He was educated in the public schools of Philadelphia, and graduated from the High School, July 12, 1860. Received appointment as Captain's Clerk in the navy, Oct. 14, 1861, and joined the U. S. S. Pocahontas, under Commander Percival Drayton at Washington Navy Yard. The vessel joined the great fleet under Admiral Dupont, then at Hampton Roads, and took part in the battle and capture of Port Royal, South Carolina, on Nov. 7, 1861. The following year, after nine months of blockading duty, he was invalided home with fever. On the restoration of his health, he was appointed an Acting Assistant Paymaster in the volunteer service, and joined the U. S. S. Freeborn, then on blockading duty in Chesapeake Bay, where he served until the close of the war, and he was honorably discharged. In 1867, after a competitive examination, he was appointed an Assistant Paymaster in the regular navy and since then has served on sea

and shore as orders have assigned him, passing through the several grades of promotion as vacancies occurred.

His last promotion, to the rank of Commander, was granted for his creditable record during the Civil War, as authorized by an Act of Congress for all those possessing such record.

After retiring from the Navy he made his home at Great Barrington, Mass. He was the author of this book, having spent several years in gathering the material for same.

He was a fine type of gentleman, dignified, kindly, and polite. Through his mother's line he traced his ancestry to the Mayflower and was a member of the Society of Mayflower Descendants. He was also a member of the Sons of the Revolution through his grandfather, William Read (6). His burial was at Philadelphia, Pa.

8. WILLIAM A. READ

Son of Epaphras J. and Anna G. (Luther) Read, born Dec. 30, 1843; married Mary A. Parry of Lakeville, who was born Oct. 29, 1847, and died at Fall River, Mar. 27, 1900. He is living at Fall River.

Children:

ANNIE L., b. Apr. 13, 1868; lives at Fall River, unmarried.

WILLIAM F., b. Oct. 11, 1869; m. Emma J. Harrington.

JUSTIN E., b. Apr. 3, 1872; m. Elizabeth A. Pemberton, Dec. 12, 1875.

8. HERBERT V. READ

Son of Epaphras J. and Anna G. (Luther) Read, born at Fall River, Oct. 24, 1846; married Emma F. Albert. He died June 7, 1881.

One child:

BERTIE L., b. Jan. 7, 1872; d. July 15, 1872.

8. FREDERICK M. READ

Son of Epaphras J. and Deborah (Wilson) Read, born in 1855; married Lulu E. Davis; died 1890. She was born in 1860; died 1910.

Children:

FREDERICK.

LOTTIE.

8. GEORGE HOLMES READ

Son of Epaphras J. and Rachel L. (Holmes) Read, born at Fall River, Feb. 14, 1877; married Annie L. Gammons of Arnold's Mills, R. I., May 23, 1901. They are living at Springfield, Mass.

Children:

JOHN GAMMONS, b. Apr. 18, 1902.

WILLIAM BLISS, b. July 18, 1905.

MORTON HOLMES, b. May 4, 1912.

ELEANORE LOUISE, b. Mar. 2, 1914.

Annie L. Gammons' Mayflower descent is given for the sake of her children. She was born June 10, 1879, at Westport Point, Mass., the daughter of Rev. John Gray Gammons and Hannah Maria White. It is through her mother that she traces descent. Three of her ancestors were on the Mayflower—Francis Cooke and his son, John Cooke, and Richard Warren (whose daughter, Sarah, married John Cooke). The line follows:

Francis (1) Cooke, b. Aug., 1583; d. at Plymouth, Mass., Apr., 1663; m., at Leyden, 1603, Hester Mahieu. His wife came to Plymouth later in the "Anne", July, 1623. John Cooke, however, came in the Mayflower with his father.

Richard (1) Warren, m. Elizabeth, who came to America later than her husband.
John (2) Cooke, the son, married Sarah (2) Warren, the daughter.
Sarah (3) Cooke, daughter, m. Arthur Hathaway.
Hannah (4) Hathaway, daughter, m. Geo. Cadman.
Elizabeth (5) Cadman, daughter, m. William White.
George (6) White, son, m. Deborah Shaw.
Israel (7) White, son, m. Sybil Hicks.
Jarathmael (8) White, son, m. Alice Howland.
John (9) White, son, m. Eliza Ann Gifford.
Hannah (10) White, daughter, m. Rev. John Gray Gammons.
Annie (11) Gammons, daughter, m. George Holmes Read.

8. ALBERT M. READ

Son of George and Emeline (Howell) Read, born at New York City, Oct. 30, 1846; married, 1st, Freelove Lilley, and, 2nd, Margaret Booth Watson.

Children by 2nd marriage:
AVIS, b. Oct. 15, 1880; m. Herbert H. Marble, July 6, 1904.
LOTTIE, b. Sept. 13, 1882; m. Ernest H. Arnold, May 24, 1905.

8. HENRY H. READ

Son of George and Emeline (Howell) Read, born at Philadelphia, Feb. 3, 1849; married, 1st, Amelia Macowan, Mar 28, 1877, and 2nd, Flora Sayers.

Children by 1st marriage:
EMMA.
AMELIA.
CLARA.

8. GEORGE E. READ

Son of George and Emeline (Howell) Read, born at Somerset, Dec. 23, 1850; married Almira E. Slade of Somerset, Dec. 24, 1881.

Children:
CHARLES.
HERBERT.
FRANK.

8. EDMOND V. READ

Son of George W. Read and Eveline Borden, born Dec., 1842; married Harriet A. Peckham.

Children:
CAROLINE S., b. Mar. 25, 1875.
ADA E., b. Feb. 10, 1874.
LOUIS B., b. Sept. 3, 1877.

8. LAWTON READ, JUNIOR

Son of Lawton and Betsey (Hathaway) Read, born at Steep Brook, Mar. 19, 1831; married Lydia W. Chase. He died Dec. 27, 1891.

Children, born at Steep Brook:
ANNIE W., b. Dec. 23, 1859; d. May 3, 1882.
A daughter (name not recorded), Dec. 20, 1862.
EVERETT W., b. May 16, 1868; d. Dec. 19, 1881.
ETHEL, b. Mar. 15, 1873

8. CHARLES READ

Son of Asa and Betsey (Read) Read, born at New Boston, Dec. 6, 1827; married Joanne Chase, May 8, 1853. He died Apr. 15, 1899.

Children:
A daughter, b. Mar. 25, 1854.
CLARISSA, b. Sept. 30, 1855; m. Chas. F. Davenport, Nov. 11, 1877.
A daughter, b. Feb. 20, 1867.
A daughter, b. Nov. 6, 1869.
A son, b. Jan. 28, 1872.

8. SPENCER P. READ

Son of Simeon and Sally S. (Pratt) Read, born at Olneyville, July 30, 1828; married Alice H. Henly at Providence.

Children:
AMY H., b. Feb. 4, 1853.
SARAH E., b. Aug. 17, 1855.
JULIAN M., b. Sept. 15, 1857.

8. WALTER D. READ

Son of Isaac Winslow Read and Josephine Dyer, born, Mar. 27, 1848; married Lydia J. Wordell, Jan. 4, 1870.

Children:
MABEL, b. Sept. 8, 1870.
A son, b. May 9, 1873.
HERBERT W., b. June 14, 1877.

8. EMERY READ

Son of Washington and Ruth (Bennett) Read, born Aug. 1, 1832; married Sarah Brightman Davis, Dec. 11, 1860.

Children:
A son, b. Sept. 1, 1861.
A son, b. Dec. 24, 1871.

8. SIDNEY H. READ

Son of Firman and Elizabeth (Reynolds) Read, born at Fall River, in 1838; married Cornelia Paquin (born Bliss), Jan. 17, 1866. He died Apr. 15, 1869.

One child only is recorded:
ADEL, b. Jan. 20, 1867.

8. JOHN C. READ

Son of Firman and Elizabeth (Reynolds) Read, born Jan. 23, 1836; married Lucy E. Cook. He died Mar. 3, 1891.

Children:
EMILY, b. Jan. 17, 1865.
PEACE B., b. Nov. 18, 1866.
JOHN F., b. Aug. 21, 1871.
A son, b. Oct. 21, 1883.

8. REBECCA JUDSON READ

Daughter of Nathan Read, Jr., and Sarah M. Olney, born Oct. 31, 1849; married Charles B. Cook, May 7, 1873. They live at Fall River, Mass.

Children:
ALICE B., b. Sept. 9, 1874; unmarried.
HARRIET R., b. Apr. 21, 1876; m. Daniel C. Linscott, Jr., May 28, 1907.
MARY H., b. Feb. 18, 1878; unmarried.
REBECCA, b. Nov. 21, 1879; unmarried.
CHARLES B. JR., b. June 28, 1890; m. Hazel A. Brayton, Feb. 2, 1918.

9. WILLIAM F. READ

Son of William A. and Mary (Parry) Read, born at Fall River, Oct. 11, 1869; married Emma J. Harrington of Fall River.

One child:
MILTON D., b. May 15, 1903.

9. WILLIAM R. READ

Son of Rufus and Hannah (Benckert) Read, born at Beverly, N. J.; married Adelaide Virginia Taylor.

Children:
George W. b. Dec. 25, 1915.
Francis Taylor.

9. JUSTIN E. READ

Son of William and Mary A. (Parry) Read, born at Fall River, Apr. 3, 1872; married Elizabeth A. Pemberton.

Children:
Mildred R., b. Sept. 12, 1898.
Justin E., Jr., b. Apr. 10, 1907; d. Dec. 22, 1915.

9. AVIS READ

Daughter of Albert M. and Margaret (Watson) Read, born Oct. 15, 1880, at South Somerset; married Herbert H. Marble, July 6, 1904. Lives at Fall River.

Child:
Preston, b. Feb. 15, 1907.

9. LOTTIE READ

Daughter of Albert M. and Margaret (Watson) Read, born Sept. 13, 1882, at South Somerset; married Ernest H. Arnold, May 24, 1905.

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Ernest Herbert, b. May 25, 1914.

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